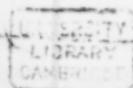


EPICETUS lived at Rome in a little house, which had not so much as a door. All the attendants he had was an old servant maid, and all his household stuff an earthen lamp.

Vincent obop. t. Anthead Epig: Epictet:



EPICTETI
U*6.126
ENCHIRIDION

Made *ENGLISH*,

IN A

Poetical Paraphrase.

BY
ELLIS WALKER M. A.

L O N D O N ,

Printed, for Sam. Keble, at the Turks-Head, in Fleet-street, and are to be Sold by Roger Clazel, at the Peacock, over against Fetter-Lane, in Fleet-Street, 1695.

June 1695

LICENSED.

August the 20th. 1691.

Rob. Midgley.

06, 28

To my Honour'd Uncle Mr. Samuel Walker
of York.

When I fled to you for shelter, at the breaking out
of the present Troubles in Ireland, I took
Epictetus for my Companion; and found, that both I
and my Friend were welcom. You were then pleas'd to
express an high esteem for the Author, as he very well
deserves it: you prais'd his Notions as Great, Noble,
and Sublime, and much exceeding the pitch of other
Thinkers. You may remember, I then told you, that as
they seem'd Such to me, so I thought they would very
well take a Poetical dress: You said the attempt was
bold, but withal wist it well done. I, hurry'd on with
zeal for an Author belov'd by you, and admired by all,
have made the Essay; a grateful diversion to me, though
perhaps I may have pleas'd you better in Admiring the
Author, than in Translating him. However having
attempted it, to whom should I dedicate my Endeavours,
but to you, whose Goodness gave me so kind a Reception,
whose Bounty relieved me in an undone Condition, and
afforded me the leisure and opportunity to shew my desire
of pleasing you, if such a Trifle as this can any way pre-
tend to please. Epistles of this kind are for the most part
Tokens of Gratitude; I know no One in the World, to
whom I am so much oblig'd as I am to you, and I make
it my Request, that you will accept of This, as an hearty
and thankful Acknowledgment, from

Your most obedient humble Servt,
Your very dutiful and affectionate Nephew
Ellis Walker.

In praise of E P I C T E T U S.

I.

Great *Epictetus*, pardon, if we praise!
Tis not thy Character to raise;
The top of all Fame's *Pyramide* is thine,
Where in her brightest glories, thou dost shine,
Where though unsought by thee
She gives thee her Eternity, (climb.
And bears you to the height you scorn'd to
In speaking all that's good of You, she shews,
That now & then, how to speak truth she knows.
All admire what's truly good,
And that they do so, all would have it understood;
There's then a right, which to our selves we do
In Praising, Reading, and Translating you.

II.

Thousands have been esteem'd for having writ,
And in Times Chronicles do justly live,
With all the applause that Letter'd Fame can give.
But you with brave disdain
Despise the common road to Fame,
That old stale trick as known an artifice,
As Pimping for acquiring Greatness is,
By a great method of your own,
You by not writing are more Glorious grown,
For every word that from you fell,
Your hearers have receiv'd as from an Oracle,
And

And handed down to us, for so 'twas fit
That your immortal wit,
Should ever live, without your seeking it,

III.

None (as meer Men) but you, could ever reach
The pitch of living up to what they teach,
And could you have receded from
Your noble principles resolv'd upon,
What vast preferments might such parts have had,
What offers had not Fortune made ?
But Blind and Foolish though she be,
Full well she knew that she,
With all her outward gifts, could nothing add to thee.
You generously brave
Ennable the opprobrious name of Slave ;
And shew, a Wise man may be truly great
In each condition, every state.

IV.

Thine was intrinsic Greatness, real Worth,
No painted *Ixion* Cloud, no glittering froth,
Not such as doth consist in store
Of Houses, or of Land,
The prey, the sport of fire, or of the stronger hand ;
Nor was it varnish't o're
With riches, which proud Churls enslave, (Knaves,
Which Knaves hoard up, for some more daring
Nor such, as glories in the bended knee
Of Sycophant Servility,

Which

Which, when the humble wretch his ends doth
He may grow saucy, and detain; (gain,
No; 'twas substantial Greatness of the Soul,
Such as no outward power can controul,
Such as can nothing fear, can nothing want;
This we true Greatness justly grant.

V.

Experience shews, how well you have confin'd
All Happiness, all Greatness, to the Mind.
For he, that sees the Captive led along,
Pensive, amidst the bellowing throng,
With folded arms, his grandeur laid aside;
And then Another with mean flattery
Courting the rascal Herd, the fenceless Mobile,
Stroaking the Beast, that he intends to ride,
And all to gratifie his boundles's pride.
He, who in History runs o're,
The Worthies that have liv'd before,
And sees great *Dioceſſian* quit his Seat,
His princely Palace, for a cooſt Retreat;
And sees the fierce *Pellean* Youth bestride
The conquer'd Globe, and weep diſſatiſh'd:
He muſt of force confeſſ,
Nothing *without* can give true happiness;
And all his Hero's of Antiquity
Slaves in an eminent degree;
And only *Epictetus* truly Great and Free.

Upon

oth
ain,

U P O N

EPICTETUS

HIS MORALS.

Kind Reader, if thou only art
Christian in Name, and not in Heart,
Or hast an Hope thy self to approve
Without true Faith, or heav'ly Love,
View in this Book (and be ashamed)
An Heathen far for virtue Fam'd.

That SAVING NAME He never knew,
Whereof We boast, but nothing do:
Yet if the Knowledge, Christians have,
Without a working Faith, can't save,
Who knows, since his good Works were Free,
And Forc'd his Ignorance, but He
May be accepted, being made
A Law t' himself, which he obey'd?

In Slavery he was confin'd;
But a free Monarch in his mind,
His Body maim'd; his Fortune poor;
But his rich Soul aloft did soar,

And nobly left the Drowsy ground,
And spurn'd the Earth ; to which we're bound.
Malice, and *Calumny*, and *Pride*,
Could ne'r in him triumphant ride ;
Envy his Bosom ne're did stain ;
He never *falsly swore for gain*
Revenge to him was never sweet,
Nor *Fraud*, which ev'ry where we meet.
The dazzling Rayes of *Beauty's* flame,
And *Passion*, which the World doth tame,
False *Interest*, *Astrea's* Foe,
And *Vice*, which all too much do know,
And fond *Opinion's* gaudy show,
All these he bravely did Despise :
On *Vertue* only fix'd his eyes ;
And laugh'd at *Fortun's* giddy Power ;
Contemn'd her Sweet, nor fear'd her Sover.
No *Bribes*, nor *Threats* could make him start ;
Nor *Loss*, nor *Pain* afflict his Heart.

He saw the *World* was *mean* and *low*,
Patrons a *Lie*; *Friendship* a *Show*;
Preference *Trouble*, *Grandeur* *vain* ;
Law a *Pretence*, a *Bubble Gain* ;
Merit a *Flash*, a *Blaze Esteem* ;
Promise a *Rush*, and *Hope* a *Dream* ;
Faith a *Disguise*, and *Truth* *Deceit* ;
Wealth but a *Trap*, and *Health* a *Cheat* :

Theſe

These Dangerous Rocks this Pilot knew,
And wisely into Port withdrew,
Let all these outward things alone,
To hold what only was his own,
The rightful Empire of the Mind,
Wence all our Acts their rise do find ;
Whence all our Motions freely flow,
Our Judgment and our Reason too,
Whereon our whole Success depends ;
The Last and Greatest of all Ends !

This Doctrine, with such Wisdome fraught,
Great EPICTETUS Liv'd and Taught ;
Christian make haste and learn his Wit : —
I fear, Thou'rt scarce an Heathen yet.

EMMANUEL Colledge
Cambridge
Septemb. 28th 1691.

JOSHUA BARNES.

Ἐις τὸ Ἐγχειρίδιον Ἐπικῆτη

ἢ Ἀρθολογίας.

Lib. 2. p. 117.
Edit. H.
Steph. 1966.

Μῆτρα Ἐπικῆτου πώ ἐν κατάτεο Συμφῶν
Οφεῖ νεν εἰσαφίκησι καὶ Οὐρανίας κενεῶντας
Ψυγὴν ὑψικόλοβον ὄλαιρεῖζων δὲ τὸ Γαῖτον.

Ἐις τὸ αὐτό.

Οσ καν Ἐπικῆτου σοφία τελέσεις μερούσθη,
Μειδίας, Βιότου γαληνίδων ἐνὶ πόντῳ,
Καὶ μέτι Ναῦτινιαν βασιπότον εἰσαφίκησε
Οὐρανίων ἀγίαν καὶ αἰσείων Πειραιώπια.

ΛΕΩΝΙΔΟΣ ἐις Ἐπικῆτον.

P. 289. ibid.

Δῆλος Ἐπικῆτος γεννήματα, καὶ Σῶμα ἀνέπτυξε
Καὶ πενίων Ἰφρ., καὶ φίλος Ἀθανάτοις.

Upon

Upon EPICTETUS his Little
Book, taken out of the Greek-Epigrams.

THE Sense, which *Epictetus* doth impart,
Consider well and treasure in your Heart;
That so your Soul from Earth aloft may rise,
Aspiring to her Native Seat, the Skies.

On the Same.

HE, that Great *Epictetus* truly knows,
Amid Life's *Storms* serene and smiling goes;
Till Nature's *Voyage* finish'd, he at last
Safe *Anchor* in the *Port* of Heav'n doth cast.

Leonidas upon Epictetus.

A Slave I was, of Fortune's favours bare,
In Body maim'd, and yet to Heaven Dear.

Upon

ON EPICTETUS
HIS
ENCHIRIDION,

Translated into English Verse.

YOU bold disputing *Atheist*, come and see
The beauteous Rays of the *Divinity*
Shine in a *Mortal Breast*, which *Scripture Light*
Did not inform, did not direct i'th' Night
Of *Ignorance*, which did be-cloud the Mind
O'th' *Ethnick World*, that *Truth* they could not find,
Until the *Morning-Star*, that *Brighter Ray*
Of *Heav'nly Glory*, form'd the *Gospel Day*.
Yet those great lessons, which that (a) *Master* taught,
Of *Patience*, *Meekness*, *Love*, *Revenge unsought*,
Of *Temp'rance*, *Justice*, and of *purer Thought*,
Of *Moderation* both in *Word* and *Deed*,
Of *prudent Conduct* when we *Drink* or *Feed*,
Of *curbing Passions*, *quenching Lustful Fires*,
And *sublimating Earthly, base Desires*:
These *Lessons Epictetus learnt*, and *taught*
By his direction, who inspir'd his Thought;
From whom all *good and perfect Gifts* do come,
Which *Mortals* have from th' *Womb* unto the *Tomb*.

(a) *Jesus Christ*.

Behold

Behold what *Vertues* in his *Sould* combine,
Whose tādiant Luslre *Christians* does out-shine,
Call him no longer *Heathen*, but *Divine*.
His *dusky Glimmers* in the *Pagan Night*,
Did only wont the *Rays of Gospel-Light*,
To make them shine as glorious, and as bright
As that (*b*) *dark Soul*, which, when reflected on
By th' *Heav'ly Light*, shone brighter than the Sun.

Think, think *Atheistick Man*, how this can be
Without the *Beamings* of the *Deitie*,
Which Darts its glorious *Light* upon the *Soul*,
Which throughout all her *Faculties* does rowl.
And thou *Immoral Christian*, blush to see,
Such Sparks of *Grace*, which Strangers are to thee.
Blush to behold *Heathens* excel in *Fame*,
Whom thou, poor *Man*, only excell'st in *Name*.
The *Heathen* does in glorious *Works* out-shine
Thy *graceless Faith*, which is an empty *Vine*.
Go, learn of *Epictetus*, then of *Christ*,
First learn to be a *Man*, and then thou may'st
Ascend to *Grace*, and *Glory* in the High'st.
Prepare thy *Morals*, as a Ring of Gold,
The Gem of *Grace*, enshrin'd there, to hold.

Learn, wavering *Man*, to suffer and to do,
What *Jesus* taught and hath commanded you,
From *Epictetus*, who will teach you too.
Those *Gospel-Lessons* which we have forgot,
Which from our Hearts and Lives are far remote.

(b) *Soul*, A. 9. 3.

The

The Ancients fay, two Words, *Bear* and *Forbear*,
Patience and *Love*, make up the Character
Of that Great. Wise, Divine Philosopher.
Whose richer Treasure being lock'd up in Greek,
The Vulgar Reader wou'd be still to seek,
Had not the Learn'd Expounder made it speak
Englissh, and that in pleasant, noble Verse,
Which *Lavrel* gives to's Brow. *Scutcheons* to's Herfe.

M. Bryan LL. D.

Sept. 17. 1691.

Oxonienfis.

Another by the same Hand.

Blest Epictetus! Where's thy *Vertue* gone;
I read of none like *thee*, but only *One*
Of all the *Heathen*, and that's the * *Perfect One*;
Whom *Earth*, and *Heaven*, and *Hell*, in vain, did try:
To shake from his renown'd *Integrity*.
Elijah to *Elisba* left his *Robe*,
Thou had'st thy *Mantle* from the *Upright Job*,
Mirrour of *Vertue*, and *Integrity*,
Pattern of *Patience*, and of *Constancy*.
But scar'd on *Earth*, *Astra*, *Job*, and *You*
Are fled to *Heaven*, and carid your *Mantle* too.
O drop it down to cover *Naked Souls*,
Call'd *Christians*, but indeed poor *Vitios Fools*,

* *Job*, chap. 1.

Disrob'd

Disrob'd of *Virtue*, shivering, cold, and bare,
Clad with those dirty *Raggs* you scorn'd to wear,
Tho'in a *Cottage*, as course as was your Fare.

— If *Heathens* be so good, O then let me
Not a *false Christian*, but a *Heathen* be,
The *Devil* dwells in him, but *God* in thee,

D. Oct. 29. 1691.

M. B.

*An Acrostick, on the ingenious Translator
Mr. F. W.*

*E*ngland and *Athen's* now are joyn'd in one ;
*L*earn'd *Epicetus* sings in th' *English* Tone.
*L*ay by his rusty Book of crabbed Greek ;
*I*n *English* Poetry you hear him speak.
*S*o all the dark-tongu'd Oracles of *Greece*,

*When Truth Shot forth full Beams, did hold their
All you, that would Philosophers appear,
Learn Natures Laws, in charming Numbers here:
Keep home, you need no more to *Athens* run:
're long, they'll all from thence to *England* come:
Read here and you will find them all out done.*

Ezekiel Bristed M. A.
To

TO
Mr. ELLIS WALKER,
ON HIS
Paraphrastical Translation
OF
E P I C T E T U S
Into *English* Verse.

Virtue has such a Shape and Mien
They say, that could she but be seen,
The guilty World would cease t' adore
Her Rival Vice, and dote on Her.
Her Nat'r'l Charms alone are such,
They ne're could dote on her too much,
Whilst Vice, with all her borrow'd Dress,
Can scarce conceal her Ugliness,
Although the Crowd, whose Reason lies
Not in their Judgment, but their Eyes,

Led

Led by appearances away,
Her, as their Sov'raign Power, obey ;
Whilst the more Wile, confid'rate few,
Who Judge not till a second view,
Having unrob'd her, soon perceive
Her Dres doth all her Beauty give.
So have I in a Crowd survey'd
A Beauteous, but an Ill-dres'd Maid,
And an Old Woman standing by
With Jewels and Deformity :
And from the distance of the place,
Concluded that the Beauteous Face
Was there, where the best Dressing was :
But soon as er'e I nearer drew,
I found my Judgment was untrue,
And curs'd the partial Fates, who gave
To wither'd Age what Youth should have.
For though no Artificial Dres
Charms like its nat'r'l Nakedness,
Yet since that Use prevails so far,
That every one some Dress must wear,
The best doth best become the Fair.
And yet *Philosophy*, till now,
In home-spun Prose was us'd to go,
Whilst *Phæbus*, and the Nine, in State,
Did on ill-govern'd Passions wait,
Till you, more Wise, did kindly teach
Apollo, what he ought to Preach.
You from the *Dandy* took the Dres,
And did it upon *Beauty* place.

True

True, *Epicetus* did disclose
Th' Angelick Maid at first in Prose :
He first the fair *Idea* saw
By halves, and but by halves did draw ;
He dug the *Ore* first from the Mine,
But you Refin'd it, made it *Coin* ;
He an unfinish'd Picture drew,
Which now is made compleat by you.
Bold Man ! —— Since there was never yet
One found, who Pencil durst to set
T' Appelle's Venus, how durst you
Conclude that Draught which *Epicetus* drew ?
A Picture which exceeds as far
His, as the Sun the meanest Star,
For there the *Body's* Beauties shin'd,
But here the Beauties of the *Mind*.

By the same Hand.

THUS the Divine *Lucretius* heretofore,
Great *Epicurus*'s Doctrine did restore ;
He taught the Ancient *Latines* first to know
The cause of Hail, of Thunder, Ice, and Snow :
He Sung of Nature's Works ; his daring Muse
Did not her deepest Mysteries refuse,
But ventur'd boldly out, and brav'ly first,
At touch'd Virgin-streams did quench her thirst.

He clad *Philosophy* in a taking Dres,
Taught her at once how to instruct and please :
The Work was great, worth that immortal Fame
Which does, and ever shall attend his Name.
Him you succeed in time, though your design
Is nobler far than his, and more Divine ;
He Sang the Knowledge of *Corporeal* things,
Your Muse the *Soul*, and her improv'ment sings ;
By how much *Form* than *Matter* better is,
So much *your Subject* is more worth than *his*.
Nor is your Author had in less esteem
Than that great Man so much admir'd by him ;
Not that we'd add to *Epicetus's* Fame,
By taking ought from *Epicurus's* Name,
Both justly Immortality do claim : 222
Both wrote in *Greek*, both their Translators Sung
Their Authors meaning in their Native Tongue ;
Both rich in Numbers, both Divinely sweet,
Both seem to write their own, and not Translate ;
Both seem a like to merit equal praise,
And both alike seem to deserve the Bays.
In this alone he is by you out-done,
The prize is greater far for which you run,
Yet at the Goal as soon as him you come. 222

WILLIAM CLA

of Katherine Hall in Cambridge.

(42)

EPICTETI

To the Author on his Poetical Version of
Epicetus his Manual.

WHilest others into Nature's Secrets pry,
And as their Mistress court Philosophy,
Whilst there they ransack thro' the hidden store,
To search for Wisdom, as the glittering Ore ;
In vain do they the eager suit renew,
Thro' various and perplexed Mazes led
Truth's still in darkness undiscovered.

Here disengag'd the Soul is nobly fraught
With Maxims, which the Wise and Learn'd have taught :
From Fancy and Opinion wholly free
She now regains and keeps her Liberty :
Calm and sedate, as freed from Grief or Pain,
She still enjoys a peaceful Halcyon Reign ;
Shewing how few things Happiness do make,
And what it is Men call so by mistake.
Such were these Rules ; but 'tis to You we owe,
That they in Numbers and in Measure flow ;
So Bards and Druids under awful shade
Of Reverend Aged Oak, of old convey'd
Their sacred Verse to the admiring throng,
And taught 'em Virtue as they heard their Song
'Twas we our Native Prophets ; such are you
First, Philosopher, and Poet too.

Emmanuel College
Sept. the 28th. 1691.

WILL. PEIRSE.

THE

T H E
L I F E
O F
E P I C T E T U S.

Epicetus was born about the end of Nero's Empire, at Hierapolis, a City of Phrygia : During the first years of his Life, he was a Slave to Epaphroditus, a Libertine and Captain of Nero's Life Guard : How he obtained his Liberty and became a Philosopher of the Stoick Sect, is uncertain, only this we find, that he upon the Edict made in the eighth year of Domitian's Empire, was forced as a Philosopher to quit the City of Rome and Italy, and amongst others to retire to Nicopolis; he had far renounced Oflentation and Ambition, then reigning Vices amongst all the Philosophers. For, as *Vincentius Obsæpænus* witnesseth, his House at Rome was without a Door, his Attendance only an old Servant Maid, and all his Household-stuff an earthen Lamp, by the light whereof he brought forth those noble and divine Reflections. This after his Death was so much valued (*Lucian* reporting it) that it was sold for three thousand Drachmas or Groats: The Purchaser thinking that if by night he constantly read thereby, he should not only attain his Wisdom, but grow

grow into equal admiration. *Epicetus* would have all Philosophy to consist in Constancy and Continence ; whence he had always these words in his mouth, Αὐτὸς γε ἀπέχεις Bear and Forbear, which were generally as well practic'd as taught by him ; for during the time of his slavery, his Master *Epaphroditus* would make it his ordinary pass-time to wrinch *Epicetus* his slave's Leg; who sinilingly and without the least passion told him, that if he continu'd his sport, he would break it, which accordingly he did. *Did not I tell you* (then said he) *you would break my Leg.* How great a piece of patience was this, scarce to be paralell'd, except in this other of his own, which was, that when his Iron Lamp he much valu'd, was stollen, all he said, was, *I shall deceive the Thief to morrow; for if he come for another, it shall be an Earthen one.* And he was not only a great Maintainer of this single Virtue, Patience; but likewise a practitioner as well as maintainer of all the rest in general : For as there was not any one in his time that did so many good actions as he ; so was there not any that made it so much his business to conceal them ; being of opinion, that a true Philosopher ought to do, and not to speak. And what's particularly more observable in him, is, that of all the Philosophers, he had the best Opinion concerning the Deity ; and the greatest insight into our Mysteries. His Sentiments are so conformable to Christianity, that St. *Augustine*, as great an Enemy as he was to ancient Philosophers, speaks very advantageously of this Man ; nay, so far as to honour him with the Denomination of most Wise. And no doubt St. *Augustine* had good reason to give him that Character, since *Epicetus* was clearly perswaded of the Immortality of the Soul, a great admirer of Providence, a mortal enemy to Impiety and Atheism, and acknowledged but one Divinity. To sum up all, an admirable Modesty, a profound Wisdom, and above all, an inflexible Integrity were very remarkable in him, as they recommended him

not

not only to the admiration of all in general; but also in particular to the Esteem and Friendship of the greatest Persons of his Age, who bore so great respect and veneration, for whatsoever came from him, as none opposed it. He died in the 902 year after the Foundation of *Rome*, and agreeing to the year of our Lord 150, in or about the 96 year of his age; since which time this following Book of his hath continued in such Estimation as many learned hands have been employed in the explanation of it in their own Language, and some in the rending of it into others. Of the first *Simplicius*, our Learned *Causabon*, and several others, who have writ their Commentaries thereon. Of the last, Monsieur *Du Vair*, and Monsieur *Boileau* in *Frensh*: Mr. *Davys* and Mr. *Healey* in *English*; which now Mr. *Walker* hath not only again translated, but also exceeding them all, hath adorned with most elegant Verse.

Books Printed for S. Kebble at the Turks-Head in Fleet-Street.

Meditations upon Living Holily and Dying Happily. With suitable Prayers at the end of each Chapter. Written Originally in *Latin* by that Learned Physician, *Daniel Sennertus*, and now Translated into *English*.

The Mourner Comforted: Or, Epistles Consolatory, writ by *Hugo Grotius* to Monsieur *du Maurier* the French Ambassador at the *Hague*. With the Ambassador's Answer: As also a Consolatory Epistle to *Thuanus*. Perused and recommended to the World by *John Scott D. D.* Rector of *St. Giles's* in the Fields.

A TABLE of the chief Things contained in the Book.

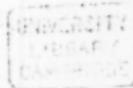
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'Tis the part of a wise man to examin the means of attaining the end that he be not foiled in his enterprize, or Better is the end of a thing than the beginniang therof, E. & L ch. 7 v. 8.	p. 51, 52, 53, 54.	The Character of a true Philosopher,	p. 110.
A true Philosopher described,	p. 55,	Knowledge vain without practice,	p. 111.
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(1)

EPICTETI ENCHIRIDION

Made *ENGLISH*,

IN A



Poetical Paraphrase.

I.

Respecting Man, things are divided thus :
Some do not, and some do belong to us.
Some within compafs of our power fall,
And these are they, which we our own may call.

B

Such

Such an Allegiance all our Deeds declare,
 Such our Endeavours, Thoughts, Aversions are,
 Such our Desires ; but Honour, Greatness, Wealth,
 Our Bodies, Life, and Lifes chief comfort, Health,
 With all things else, of every other kind,
 (That own not a dependance on the mind)
 Which Mortals with concern desire or fear,
 Are such as are not in our Power, or Sphere.

II.

Those actions which are purely ours, are free,
 By Nature such, as cannot hind'red be,
 Above the stroke of Chance or Destiny.
 But those o're which our power bears no sway,
 Are poor, another's, servile, and obey
 The hind'rance of each rub, that stops the way.

III.

If then you should suppose those things are free,
 Whose Nature is condemn'd to Slavery ;

Should

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3

Should you suppose what is not yours, your own,
'Twill cost you many a figh, and many a groan ;
Many a disappointment will you find,
Abortive hopes, and a distracted mind,
And oft accuse, nay curse, both Gods and Men,
And lay your own rash foolish fault on them.
But if what's truly yours, you truly know ;
Not judging that your own, that is not so,
None shall compel you, none an hind'rance be,
No sorrow shalt thou know, no enemy ;
None shall your Body hurt, or Name abuse,
None shalt thou blame in anger, none accuse,
Nor shalt thou poorly be oblig'd to do,
What thy great Soul doth not consent unto.

I V.

If then thou dost desire such things as these,
If thou wouldst tread those flow'ry ways of peace,

Remember that with fervency and care,
Not chill'd with cold indifference, you prepare.
Some things must be to your dear self deny'd
For a short space, some wholly laid aside.
For if at once thou dost desire to reign,
Be rich, and yet true happiness ~~not~~ attain;
That is, at once, be very wise and vain.
By this impartial chase, 'tis likely you
Both Games may lose, which you at once pursue;
Desiring this, you wealth and power may lose,
True happiness destroy pursuing those:
You by one care the other will defeat,
And neither happy be, nor rich, nor great.

V.

When Fancy then with her black Train appears,
Of difficulties, dangers, hardships, fears,
With a pale ghastly face, whose awful frown
Frights Sleep away, and hardens Beds of Down,

Be ready to say thus; That which I see,
Is not indeed, that which it seems to be.
Then straight examine it; and try it by
Those rules you have, but this especially,
Whether it points at things in us or no,
If not at things which in our power we know,
'Tis but a Bug-bear Dream, an empty Show
Of no concern to thee, like Clouds that fly
In various forms, and vanish in the Sky.

VI.

With our aversions, and desires, doth rise
A smiling Twin-born hope, whose flatteries
Do equally themselves to each divide,
And with the like kind looks sooth either side.
This, with a promise of obtaining, fires
The eager mind, and tickles the desires.
This promiseth, that something we shall shun
From which we are averse, from which we run.

Now

Now what Misfortunes Vulture-like attend
The poor defeated Wretch, that fails of's end ?
And, ah ! What real grief doth him surprize,
Who suffers that, from which with care he flies ?
If then you only do such things decline,
As are within thy power, by Nature thine,
Nothing shall ever frustrate your design.
But if from Sicknes, Want, or Death you fly,
In Sorrow you shall live, with Terrors die.

VII.

Therefore be sure, that your aversions fall
Only on things which you your own may call ;
But for the present all desires suspend,
For if to things not in your power they tend,
Folly and Grief you'll find, but lose your end.
And as for things, even in your power, what's fit,
It may be well presum'd, you know not yet,

ENCHIRIDION.

7

What's most to be esteem'd, what most admir'd,
What with most fervency and zeal desir'd.
Be wary then, as cautious Generals are,
When they for entrance at some breach prepare,
Where Ambuscade, or bursting Mines they fear,
Do not engage so soon, till Reason scout,
And first survey the object round about ;
Think that dark Snakes thick in your way are laid,
Think that each step may on some danger tread,
Approach with prudent leisure, that with ease
You may withdraw your Forces when you please.

VIII.

In things that charm the Soul, which love incite,
By Natures force, use, profit, or delight,
Beginning from the meanest things, that share
Your tender thoughts, consider what they are.
As thus : Suppose some modish new Device,
Of Potters skill in Earthen Ware you prize,

B 4

Consider

Consider 'tis but varnish'd Clay, that's broke
By every light and accidental stroke ;
This when the pleasing Toy you broken find,
The puny loss shall not disturb your mind.
Thus if a kind soft Wife, or prattling Boy,
With Beauty charm, and a Paternal Joy,
Consider these dear objects of your Love,
Which round your heart with so much pleasure move
Are but meer Mortal Pots of finer Clay,
Wrought with more Art, more subject to decay ;
Poor, feeble, sickly things, of humane kind,
To the long cares of a short life confin'd,
The riotous sport of Death, whose Beauties must
Crumble to their first principles of Dust.
Arm'd with these thoughts, you never shall bewail
The loss of things so ruinous and frail,

IX.

In every thing you undertake, 'tis fit
You in true Judgments Scales examine it ;
Weigh every circumstance, each consequence,
And usual accident arising thence.

As thus : Suppose you for the Bath prepare,
Consider the disorders frequent there,
One throwing Water in another's face,
Some railing, others justled from their place,
This Bully giving, that receiving blows,
Some picking Pockets, others stealing Clothes.

With safety thus you the wisht Port may make,
If thus you Preface what you undertake :
I'll instantly go wash, resolv'd to do
What Nature and my Will incline me to.

And thus, in all things else, prepare your mind,
And though, perhaps, you some disturbance find

When

When you prepare to wash, unshockt you'l say,
This hindrance we expected in our way.
This we consider'd, when resolv'd to do,
What Nature, and our will inclin'd us to,
This we resolv'd on, for we needs must miss
Our propos'd end, when vext at things like this.

X.

Unjustly Men of Nature's laws complain,
As cause of all their misery and pain.
Nothing in Nature can afflict them, no
'Tis their opinion only breeds their woe ;
If wretched, that alone hath made them so.
They their own Bridewel in their breasts do bear,
And their own Judge, and Executioner.
Not death it self (how grim so e're it seem,))
Is truly Terrible, or it had been
As dreadful to great *Socrates* as thee,
Even his strong Soul had shrunk with fear, but he

Out-

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ii

Outstar'd the prejudice, and shew'd t'was mean,
A Notion void of fence, a waking dream,
Such as from ill digested thoughts doth steam.
A Monster, which you paint with hollow eyes,
Attended with sad looks, and mournful cryes;
A Scarecrow, which thine own opinion made,
From this you fly, of this you are afraid.



* When then we meet some check in some design,
When at each little hindrance we repine,
Let's lay the fault at our own doors, and blame
The giddy whimsies which our fancies frame,
Those ill-shapt *Centaurs* of a cloudy brain.
To blame another for things manag'd ill,
Things subject to thy power, and Sovereign will,
Shews want of thought, Philosophy, and skill.



* Here I joyn two Chapters together, because in some Books I find them so
and the fence requires it.

To

To blame thy self, shews thou hast but begun
The glorious Race, nor hast it throughly run ;
He that blames neither, only wins the prize,
Is justly Crown'd by all, is only wise.

XI.

Be not transported with too great a sense
Of any outward object's excellence.
For should the pamper'd Courser which you feed,
Of swiftest heels, and of the noblest breed,
Through sense of vigour, strength of Oats and Hay,
From his full Manger turn his head, and say,
Am I not beautiful, and sleek, and gay :
T'were to be born in him, the speech might suit
The Parts and Education of the Brute :
But when with too much pleasure you admire
Your Horses worth, and vainly boasts his fire,

And

And tire us out with endless idle prate
About his crest, his colour, or his gate.
'Tis plain, you think his Owner fortunate.

You're proud he's your's, and vainly claim as due
What to the Beast belongs, and not to you.
Too plainly is your selfish folly shewn,
Adding your Horses virtues to your own.

Well then perhaps you'll ask what's yours of these
Dear outward things, that seem so much to please?

Why nothing but the use : if then you choose
What's truly good, what is not so refuse,
If the well chosen good you rightly use,
As Nature's light informs you, then alone
You may rejoice in something of your own.

XII.

As in a Voyage, when you at Anchor ride,
You go on shore fresh water to provide,

And

And perhaps gather what you chance to find,
Shelfish or Roots of palatable kind ;

Yet still you ought to fix your greatest care
Upon your Ship, upon your business there :
Still thoughtful, least perhaps the Master call,
Which if he do, then you must part with all
Those darling trifles, that retard your hast,
Least bound like Sheep you by constraint are cast
Into the * Hold. Thus in your course of Life,
Suppose you a lovely Son, or beauteous Wife,
Instead of those forementioned trinkets find,
And bless your Stars, and think your fortune kind ;
Yet, still be ready, if the Master call,
To cast your burden down, and part with all.
Forsake the beauteous Wife, and lovely Son,
Run to your Ship ; without reluctance run ;

Nor look behind, but if grown old and gray,
Keep always near your Ship, and never stay
To stoop for worthless lumber on the way.



Short is the time allow'd, to make your coast,
Which must not for such tasteless joy be lost.
Your reverend play-things will but ill appear,
Besides you'll find they'll cost you very dear:
'Tis well if Age can it's own weakness bear.



Unman'd with dotage, when you're call'd upon,
How will you drag the tiresome luggage on?
With Tears and Sighs, much folly you'll betray,
And crawl with pain undecently away.

XIII.

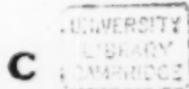
Wish not that things not in your power may run
As you would have them, wish them as they're done,
Wish them just as they are, just as you see;
Thus shall you never disappointed be.

You

You seem some sharp disease to undergo,
Alas 'tis vain to wish it were not so :
'Tis but the Bodies pain, a surly ill,
Which may impede the body, not the will :
For all the Actions of th' obsequious mind,
Are in your power, to your own choice confin'd.
Thus strength and vigour may your nerves forsake,
And lameness from your Feet all motion take,
But can in thee not the least hindrance make.
'Tis in thy power to resolve not to go,
Judge if it be an hinderance or no,
You on your Feet may an embargo lay,
As well as chance or natural decay.
Consider thus, in all things else you'l find
Nothing can hinder, or confine the mind ;
In spite of every accident you're free,
Those hinder something else but cannot thee.

XIV.

In every thing that happens search your mind,
And try what force, what faculties you find
For the encounter of the object fit,
In the same moment when you meet with it :
As if some Beauteous Female you espy,
Whose powerful air detains your wandring eye,
Straight Ransacking the Treasures of your Soul ;
You'll find strong Temperance will that power con-
Whose cool directions presently asswage (troul,
The keenest Fires, the Dog-star Beauty's rage.
These (if you mean to conquer) soon disarm
Each softning Smile, and each obliging Charm.
Are any Hardships of laborious weight
Impos'd, by Fortitude they're conquer'd straight ;
Nor rowling Seas, nor an impetuous Wind
Can overset this ballast of the Mind ;



Secure

Secure of Storms you on the Billows ride,
And stem the furious current of the tide.
Are you abus'd ? Hath any done you wrong
By the base Venom of a railing Tongue ?
Soft patience gives an easie remedy,
Deadens the force of the Artillery ;
The Poyson spreads into the yielding Air,
Unhurt you find it pafs, and vanish there.
In your own Breast you'll always find supply
Of aid, provide you make this scrutiny :
No entrance of the Foe you need to fear,
You'll find th' Avenues guarded every where.

XV.

With men'tis usual, when depriv'd of ought
Which with much pleasure entertain'd the thought,
To say, that such a thing they've lost. In you,
Who the great search of Wisdom do pursue,

To say you've lost is mean ; say you've restor'd
What bounteous God did for a while afford.
Your only Son, your dearest Hope is dead ;
Why do you beat your Breast, and shake your head?
Why man ? he's but restor'd, return'd again
To the kind Owners hand from whence he came.
You've lost your Land by Fraud, a vain mistake,
How is that lost that is but given back ?
But he that thus deceived me, was not he
A Villain and a Knave ? What's that to thee ?
What is't to thee ? Is he a Knave or no
By whom he takes, who did the gift bestow ?
Was't not his own ? You'll grant me, I suppose,
To whom he would, he might of's own dispose.
While he allows, use what belongs to him,
Not as your own, as Travellers their Inn,
Who as at home are treated while they pay,
But claim no title longer than they stay.

XVI.

You would be wise, I'll teach you if you please,
Withdraw your mind from such wild thoughts as
If I my wonted diligence forget,
My gainful drudgery ; how shall I eat ? }
I certainly shall starve for want of meat.
If I indulge, and not Chastize my Boy,
My Lenity his Morals may destroy ;
He still will steer the course he hath begun,
And to the very height of Lewdness run.
I tell thee mortal, that 'tis better far,
To dye with thirst and hunger, free from care,
With a serene and an undaunted mind,
Than live in Wealth, to its dire cares confin'd.
As for the Boy, 'tis better far that he
Become a Proverb for Debauchery ;

'Tis

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Tis better he were hang'd *, than you should share
A moments grief by your reforming care:
But this is more than difficult you'll say;
Too hard a Rule for flesh and blood t' obey ;
Yet by a former rule 'tis easie made ; }
Begin by smalleſt things, as I have ſaid ; }
Suppoſe your Wine be ſtol'n, your Oil be ſhed ; }
And thus take comfort, where's the loſs? if I
At ſuſh a rate Tranquillity can buy ,
If Conſtantcy at ſuſh a rate be bought ;
And there's not any thing that's got for naught.
Suppoſe you call your Servant, he's at play ;
Or when he's preſent, minds not what you ſay :
And is the quiet of your Soul perplex'd
At this? he gets the better if you're vex'd;

* Tis defiſed that the Wife will not be offend'd at this Word, for if it
be no matter, and of no concern, whether the Boy be lewd or no, it is no mat-
ter, and of no concern, whether the Boy be hang'd, for this likewife,
Tay ux ḥp n̄μιν.

He grows your Master, while he can torment;
Give not such power to the vile negligent.

XVII.

Would you be wise? ne're take it ill you're thought
A Fool, because you tamely set at naught
Things not within your power, but pass 'em by
Without a wish, with a regardless eye;
A senseless Stock, because no loss or pain
Makes you lament, or childishly complain.
Never pretend to skill, nor wish to seem
Deep Learned, nor court a Popular esteem:
But if, admir'd by men, you pass for wise,
And draw their listening Ears, and following Eyes,
Rather mistrust, and doubt your self from thence,
They're oftner fond of Folly than of Sense.
While they admire, while you their praises hear,
You're nearer to the Fool than e're you were;

'Tis

'Tis very likely some gross Vanity,
They fancy in themselves, and love to see
Ripened in you to full maturity :

As lust of Glory, or a strong desire
Of Wealth, or Power, or Splendour in attire.

'Tis altogether vain, to think to adhere
To the strict principles agreed on here,
While you the course quite contrary do steer,
To things not in your power ; which if you reach,
You needs must quit the Discipline we teach.

XVIII.

If you desire your Children, Friends, or Wife
Should never dye, but share Immortal Life
With the blest Gods, 'tis perfect Lunacy ;
Bedlam hath many a wiser man than thee ;
A Doctor and dark Room may do thee good ;
Take Physick, I advise thee, and let Blood.

Will nothing but Impossibles go down ?
 You wish that what's not in your power may own
 Subjection to your Will ; and would confine
 What's in another's power to be in thine.
 Thus if you wish your Son may blameless be,
 Though he hath rak'd the sink of Infamy,
 Tis a return of your Infirmity ;
 A spice of madness still : As well you might
 Wish Vice were Virtue, wish that black were white.
 Is wishing then deny'd ? And must our mind
 To the dull present only be confin'd ?
 No, doubtless you may wish ; nor need you fear
 Defeat, provide you wish within your Sphere.

XIX.

Him, and him only, we may justly call
 The powerful Lord, the Sovereign of all ;
 Whose power's such, that as he please he may
 Keep what he will, or give, or take away.

If

If then thou would'st be free, a Monarch still;
Nor wish, nor shun, what's in another's will.
Thus what you would you shun, or wish you have;
Thus are you free; if otherwise, a Slave.

XX.

With the same manners, which when you're a Guest
You use at some rich Neighbours sumptuous Feast,
Manage the rest of your affairs of life
With easie Conversation, void of strife;
Void of rude noise: As when some Novelty
Is handed round the Table; if 'tis nigh
Stretch forth your hand, take share with modesty. }
If it pafs by, do not detain by force,
Nor snatch at it, 'twill shew your breeding course:
Is it not near you yet, at distance plac'd,
Shew not your greediness by too much haste;
Nor, like a hungry Waiter standing by,
Devour it at a distance with your Eye.

Abstain

Abstain a while, 'tis but a minutes fast,
Take patience, Man, 'twill surely come at laſt.
Now if the ſame Behaviour be your guide
In all the actions of your life beside,
As in reſpect of Children, Wife, Estate,
Of being rich, or made a Magistrate ;
If moideſtly you take, and thank kind Heaven
For any of theſe Bleſſings to you given ;
Or if depriv'd of ought, you ſtraight resign
All to its will ; nor peeviſhly repine.
Or if as yet unbleſt, you meekly wait
With humble patiencē, the Decrees of Fate ;
Not deſperate, nor yet importunate.
Some time or other, when the Gods think fit,
Bleſt with Eternal Banquets you ſhall ſit
Among th' immortal Powers, and free from care,
Perpetual Joys and Happiness ſhall ſhare,

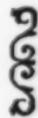
But if so great your Soul, as to abstain,
And bravely with a noble scorn disdain
These outward proffers, which Mankind do bless,
You're sure a God, you cannot sure be less.
For what's a God, but a blest Being freed
From Cares, that never dies, or stands in need ?
You shall not only be the Guest of Heaven,
But with the foremost rank of Gods be even ;
Equal in power. By methods such as these
Great *Heraclitus*, Great *Diogenes*,
And some like them, to deathless honours rise ;
Who, with the Immortal, in due Glory shine ;
Who, as they well deserv'd, were call'd Divine.

XXI.

When you see any one with tears bemone
The loss of Goods, or absence of a Son,
Whom he perhaps thinks drown'd at Sea ; beware
You be not byas'd here, and fondly share
But His

His foolish weakness, and commiserate
His ruin'd and deplorable estate,
While vainly he in earnest doth bemoan
Things in another's power, not in his own.
T' avoid this Error therefore keep in mind
This reas'ning, 'tis of mighty use you'll find.
What hath befall'n this man doth not molest
His mind, nor plays the Tyrant in his breast ;
He by his own opinion is distress'd.
For could the thing it self afflict him, then
'Twould work the same effect in other men.
But this we see disprov'd, since some men bear
The like Disasters, without sigh or tear.
You may indeed condole as far as words,
This pity meer Civility affords ;
To tell him he's mistaken will inflame
His grief ; to call him Fool will not asswage.

Beside 'tis rudeness, barbarous cruelty,
T' insult even over fancy'd misery.
Nay, we'll allow that you may sigh with him,
But then beware, lest you perhaps begin
To be too sensibly concern'd within.



XXII.

While on this busie Stage, the World, you stay,
You're, as it were, the Actor of a Play ;
Of such a part therein, as he thinks fit
To whom belongs the power of giving it.
Longer, or shorter, is your part, as he
The master of the Revels shall decree.
If he command you act the Beggars part,
Do it with all your skill, with all your art,
Though mean the Character, yet ne'r complain,
Perform it well ; as just applause you'll gain,
As he, whose Princely grandeur fills the Stage,
And frights all near him in Heroick rage.

Say

Say you a Cit, or Cripple represent,
Let each be done with the best management.
'Tis in your power to perform with Art,
Though not within your power to choose the part.

XXIII.

The direful Ravens, or the Night Owls voice,
Frightens the Neighbourhood with boding noise ;
While each believes the knowing Bird portends
Sure death, or to himself, or to his Friends ;
Though all that the Nocturnal Prophet knows,
Is want of Food, which he by whooting shews.
But say this Oracle, with Wings and Beak,
As certain Truths as *Delphick* Priestes speak,
And that through prejudice you should suppose
This boder could futurity disclose,
Yet be not mov'd ; distinguish thus, you're free,
These Omens threatning something else, not me :

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Some danger to my Body, Goods, or Name,
My Children, or my Wife, they may proclaim ;
But these are but the Appendixes of me,
To me these tokens all auspicious be,
Since I from outward accidents like these,
May reap much real profit, if I please.

XXIV.

If you would be Invincible, you may ;
I'll shew y' a certain and a ready way.
You can't be conquer'd, if you never try
In any kind to get the mastery.
'Tis not within your power to bear away
The Prize, 'tis in your choice not to essay.

XXV.

When any man of greater power you see
Invested with the Robes of Dignity,
In Honours gaudiest, gayest Livery,

Dreaded

Dreaded by all ; whose arbitrary will,
Whose very breath, whose every look can kill ;
Whose power, and whose wealth know no restraint ,
Whose greatness hardly flattery can paint :
Take care you be not here intangled by
The too great lustre, that beguiles your eye ;
Beware you do not envy his estate,
Nor think him happier because he's great.
For if true quiet and tranquillity,
Consist in things which in our power be,
What residence can Emulation find ?
What room hath restless Envy in the mind ?
Envy and Happiness can ne're reside
In the same place, nor in one Breast abide ;
Nor do you wish your self (if we may guess
Your real thoughts by what you do profess)
To be a Senator or General,
But to be free, (that's greater than them all.)

This

This freedom you would gladly learn, you say,
To which there is but one, one only way ;
Which is to scorn, with brave and decent pride,
All things, that in another's power reside.

XXVI.

Not he that beats thee, or with flanderous tongue
Gives thee ill Language, doth thee any wrong,
Thine own false Notions give the injury :
These slander, give the affront, and cudgel thee.
When words traduce, or blows the limbs torment,
Which 'tis not in your power to prevent ;
This presently you term an injury,
But give no tolerable reason why.
You plead your Carkafs, and good Name are dear ;
The wound goes to your Soul, that wounds you there;
'Tis false, 'tis but a scratch ; nor can it find
An entrance thither, or disturb your mind ;

Without your own consent; an injury
To something else without, 'tis none to thee.
Thus when provok'd, your own opinion blame,
'Tis that provokes, and causeth all the pain:
Wherefore beware, lest objects such as these
Gain your assent too soon, with too much ease,
Lest fancied harms your mind with grief affect,
Lest fancied bliss should gain too much respect.
Thus you'll gain leisure, and a thinking time;
Your Notions with due measures to confine;
To add, to prune, to pollish, and refine.

XXVII.

Let Death, let Banishment, and every ill,
Which Mortals thoughts with apprehension fill;
Which most they dread, and with aversion fly,
Be always present to your thoughts, and eye,
But chiefly Death, thus no mean thought shall find
Harbour, or entertainment in your mind.

Thus

Thus no base fear shall ever force you from
Your noble principles resolv'd upon.

Not Tyrants frowns, nor tortures shall enslave
Your fearless Soul, but generously brave,
You all their little malice may defie,
Arm'd only with the thought you once must dye.

Now can Death truly formidable seem
To you, who with it have familiar been,
Who every day have the pale Bug-bear seen.

Yet Death's the worst that you can undergo,
The utmost limit, the last Scene of Woe,
The greatest spite your enemy can shew,
And yet no more, than what the Gout, or Stone,
With more malicious leisure might have done.

Arm'd with the thoughts of Death, no fond desire
Of Wealth, nor the deluding foolish fire
Of power, shall lead you on with hopes to gain,
What Death hath sworn you shall not long retain.

XXVIII.

Wisdom, you say, is what you most desire,
The only charming blessing you admire,
Therefore be bold, and fit your self to bear
Many a taunt, and patiently to hear
The grinning foolish Rabble laugh aloud,
At you the sport and pastime of the crowd,
While in like jears they vent their filthy spleen,
Whence all this gravity, this careless mien ?
And whence, of latz, is this pretender come,
This new proficient, this Musheroom,
This young Philosopher with half a Beard ?
Of him, till now, we have no mention heard.
Whence all this Supercilious pride of late ?
This stiff behaviour, this affected gate ?
This will perhaps be said, but be not you
Sullen, nor bend a supercilious brow,
Lest thus you prove their vile reproaches true,

{ Which

Which are but words of course, the excrement,
The usual malice which alike they vent
Upon the guilty, and the innocent.

But firmly still to what seems best adhere,
As if by Heaven's commands you ordered were
To keep that Post, not to be driven from thence
By force, much less a scurrilous offence.

Which if you still maintain you shall become,
Even your Revilers admiration,
Forc'd to confess their faults, they'l court you more
Than they reproach'd, or laugh'd at you before.

But if through mockery you tamely yield,
And quit your noble Station in the Field,
You're to be laugh'd at, on a double score,
First for attempting, then for giving o're.

XXIX.

If to please others, studying to be dear
In their kind thoughts, you move beyond your Sph'rs

And look abroad, respect, and praise to gain,
And the poor outward trifle, call'd a *Name* :
You lose the Character you wish to bear,
You lose your Station of Philosopher.
Let it suffice that such your self you know,
No matter whether other men think so.
Let it be to your self, if wise you'd seem ;
And 'tis enough, you gain your own esteem.

XXX.

Let not these thoughts torment you ; I, alas !
In low ignoble Poverty shall pass
My wretched days, and unregarded lye
Buried alive, in dark obscurity ;
No honour, no preferment, shall I have,
But Schochonless descend into the Grave :
This as a wondrous hardship you bemoan,
A grievous ill, when really 'tis none ;

The outward want of power, preferment, place,
Is no more misery, than 'tis disgrace :
And that 'tis no disgrace I shall evince ;
Where's the disgrace you are not made a Prince,
Or that you're not invited to a Feat,
'Tis none, by every man of Sense confess'd ;
For where's the man in's Wits that can expect
That things not in your pow'r you should effect ?
And why of want of power should you complain ?
Who can no place, or honour, justly claim,
Except in things in your own power ; in these
You may be great, and powerful as you please.
But then you plead, I thus shall useleſs grow
To those I love, nor shall I kindness shew,
Nor wealth, nor power, on my best friends bestow,
Nor by my int'reſt cause them to become,
Free of each gainful Priviledge in *Rome*,

Nor when I please an Officer create,
Nor raise them to be Utensils of State.
And who e're told you yet, that these things lie
Within your power or capacity ?
Or where's the man, that can to others grant
That Place, or Honour, he himself doth want?
But they're importunate, alas, and cry,
Get it, that we your friends may gain thereby ;
Answer them thus, I'll do it if I can,
So I may keep my self a modest man,
Just to my self, still innocent and free,
A Man of Honour and Integrity,
I'll use my best endeavours ; If I may
Gain it on these conditions, shew the way ;
But if you think I'll this true Wealth forgo,
That you may something gain, that is not so ;
See how unjust this Self-partiality,
And to be plain, you are no friends for me,

If

ENCHIRIDION. 4^r

If you prefer a base penurious end,
Before an honest, and a modest friend ;
Suppose your choice were such, then shew me how
What you so earnestly desire, to do,
And keep my Principles of freedom too.

But think not I will part with happiness,
That you some worthless pleasure may possess.
But thus your Country nothing by you gains :
What's this advantage that your Country claims ?
Is it that Baths you make, with cost and charge ?
Or Porches build unimitably large ?
Where late Posterity may read your Name,
Which there you Consecrate to lasting Fame ;
These gifts from you your Country can expect
No more, than Physick from an Architect.
Or that a Shoomaker should Armour make,
Or of your Foot a Smith the measure take.

For

For 'tis enough, if each perform in's Trade
The Work for which he seems by Nature made :
If each man mind the way, in which he's plac'd,
The Smith his Anvil, Shoomaker his Last.

And thus if you the height of Wisdom reach,
And what so well you know, as well can teach,
If by these noble methods you profess,
You with another honest man can blefs
The City where you dwell, you give no less
Than he, who on his Country doth confer
Porches, or Baths, or Amphitheater.

Well then i'th' City, where I useful am,
What Office shall I have ? Such as you can,
Keeping your Honour, and your Conscience free,
With spotleſs Innocence, and Modesty.

But if while fondly you desire to please
Your fellow Citizens, you part with these ;

You labour but in vain, for where's the use
Of one grown Impudent, and Scandalous?

XXXI.

Is any one saluted, or embrac'd
With more respect than you, or higher plac'd
At Table, is he thought more grave and wise,
Of better parts, and abler to advise ;
Grudge not: but if these things be good, rejoice
They're plac'd so well, and meet so good a choice.
And if they're bad, why should you take offence,
That you in these have not the preference ?
But how can you, that neither cringe nor bow,
Nor other Antick Spaniel tricks do shew,
Nor flatter, fawn, forswear, assent, or lye,
Nor use that servile Knavish industry,
By which base supple Slaves their ends obtain,
The same respect, or the same favour gain?

And

And how should you, who scorn to condescend,
With early morning Visits to attend
Th' awaking of a rich, proud, pow'rful friend,
Expect to share th' advantages that fall
To him, that helps to fill his crowded Hall?
Or, like a **Centinel**, still walks before
His Patrons House, and almost courts his Door;
Who, after long attendance, thinks he's blest,
As much as *Persian* bowing to the *East*,
When the Sun rises from his watry Nest,
And swears the Eastern God doth not dispence
A kinder, or a gentler influence,
And that each look, each smile of his, doth bring
Warmth to the Summer, beauty to the Spring,
Who, when his Lordship frowns, admires the grace
And manly fierceness, that adorns his face.
Applauds the thunder, of his well mouth'd Oaths,
And then the modish fashion of his Clothes,

And

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And vows the Taylor, who the Garments made,

Happy in making them, though never paid.

These are the means by which he stands posseſſ'd

Of favours, by each Fly-blown Fool careſſ'd,

At every Feast an acceptable Guest.

These if you'd purchase, and not give the price,

Unjuſt, unsatiable's your avarice :

As for familiar instance, What's the rate,

The Gard'ner holds, and sells his Lettice at ?

Let us suppose a farthing, he that buys

Bears off the Purchase, but lays down the price;

Your Sallad wants theſe Lettice, you with-hold

The ſmall equivalent, for which they're fold.

Nor is your cafe a jot the worse for this,

For as the Lettice which he bought are his,

So yours, who did not buy, the farthing is.

Thus if you're not invited out to Dine,

You pay not for his Meat, nor for his Wine,

For

For he (be not deceiv'd) who entertains,
Doth it not *Gratis*, he too looks for gains.
Right bounteous he seems, but sells his Meat,
And praise expects for every bit you eat,
Each luscious draught, each pleasing delicate,
Is but a specious Snare, a tempting Bait;
You the rich entertainment dearly buy,
By mean, obsequious, servile flattery.
If then these things, that must be purchas'd thus,
Seem useful to you, and commodious,
Lay down the value, do not think to get,
Unless you give the rate at which they're set.
These if on easier terms you would provide,
And without paying for them be supply'd,
How can your foolish wish be satisfy'd ?
Well then, but shall I nothing have instead
Of this dear Feast, that still runs in my head ?

Yes,

Yes, if you're not infatiable, you have
Enough in lieu thereof, you're not a Slave,
You have not prais'd him, who's below your hate,
You've not admir'd his Dinner, nor his Plate,
Nor past a Complement against your will,
Nor in low cringes shewn your awkward skill,
Nor fed his Dogs, to shew the vast respect,
The Master of the Favourites may expect,
Nor did y' admire his sumpt'ous Furniture,
Nor all that civil Insolence endure,
With which at meeting he informs you how,
When you depart his presence you must bow.
Nor have you born his arrogance and pride,
While he surveys his board on every side,
And fancies that he's bountiful and great,
And thinks he makes you happy by his meat.

XXXII.

Nature's design, decrees, and will, we read,
In things concerning which we're all agreed,
Which no dispute, or controversie need.

As, say your Neighbours Boy hath broke a Glas,
You're apt to cry, these things must come to pass.
So if your own be broke, you ought from thence
To learn to bear it with like patience,
As if 'twere his, thence by degrees ascend,
As thus, suppose your neighbour lose a Friend,
Bury his Wife, or Son, I know you'll cry,
'Tis not so strange a thing that Mortals dye.
But say the case be yours, the loss your own,
Then what a howling's there, what pitious moan,
What tears you shed ! Ah me ! forlorn ! undone !
I've lost, you cry, I've lost my only Son !
The innocent, sweet, beauteous Youth is dead,
He's gone, and all my Joys are with him fled.

When

When all this while you should remember how
Your Neighbours case, like yours, affected you.
Without a sigh, without a tear , or groan,
You bore his loss, and so should bear your own.

XXXIII.

As no Man sets up marks that he may miss,
So no such real thing as ill there is ;
For should we grant that ought in Nature's ill,
Twould argue cruelty , and want of skill
In the great Artist, who all wise and kind,
Nothing that is not for thy good design'd,
Nothing to grieve, or to torment thy mind.
This you think wisely answer'd, when you say,
Suppose a Russian beat me on the way,
Or force me publickly in open Street,
To take a kick from every Slave I meet,
Unjust the violence, nor can I bear
Such an affront ; I must be angry here ;

Even you'l acknowledge this to be an ill ;
Thus you remain in your old Error still.
I thought that we had clear'd that point before,
With such plain proof, that it requir'd no more ;
I shew'd you 'twas no ill, and bid you blame
False Notions, the base issue of your Brain.
You're angry at the Man who did expose
Your Body to the injury of blows,
And yet expose your mind to grief and pain,
As oft as any Railer's pleas'd to stain
With vile Reproach, the beauty of your Name.
Judge then your self, but judge impartially,
Who's guilty of the greater injury,
Since you expose your Mind, your Body he.
To grieve, be angry, envy, or to hate,
Are ills indeed, but such as you create ;
For these let not kind Nature be arraign'd,
You, only you, are to be justly blam'd.

Wherefore

Wherefore in every thing you undertake
Let Judgment sit, and Just enquiry make
Of all preliminaries leading to
The action, which you have design'd to do,
Of every consequence and accident,
That probably may wait on the event,
Be sure that you can beat it, though it be
Reproach, or Blows, or Death, with bravery ;
Which if you carelessly neglect to weigh,
Though brisk and vig'rous at the first essay,
You'l meet some shameful hind'rance by the way.

XXXIV.

You say you'd win the Olive Crown, and lust
To reap the Harvest of thi *Clympick* Dust ;
That History may reckon by your Name,
From the great Year, when such a one o'recame :
Tis brave, and by the Gods I wish the same.

But then consider first what's to be done,
Through what a course of Hardships you must run
E're you proceed, and what may be th' event,
And consequence of such a great attempt.
With a strict course of life you must begin,
Confin'd by Methods and sharp Discipline,
According to direction ; you must eat
Nothing that's Boil'd, and such a kind of Meat
As is allow'd, then you must drink no Wine,
Nor yet cold Water , and observe your time
For Exercise, you must your self inure,
The Summers heat, and Winter cold t'indure.
These preparations made, you then must try,
If possible to gain the Victory ,
And that not without labour, danger, harm,
Or los of Ribs, perhaps a Leg or Arm ;

And

And when whole pecks of Dust you've swallow'd
Been lasht, & all things requisite have done, }
Tis possible that you may lose the Crown. }

These hazards when you've thoroughly survey'd,
You still may venture on ; nor be dismay'd,
You'l find the burthen lighter which you've }
Else you'l desist, & jade, like wanton Boys, }
Who tir'd, and pleas'd, with novelty of Toys,
Scarce warm in one , begin another play,
And scorn the tedious sport of yesterday,
Who some times Pipers , Wrestlers, represent,
Or with tough Cudgel try their hardiment ;
Sometimes the Horn , or the shrill Trumpet sound,
Act Tragedies, and kill without a Wound.
Thoughtless as they, one while your hand you'l try }
In Wrestling, Fencing next, then Poetry, }
In Rhetrick ; nay, perhaps Philosophy , }

But fail in each, and all these pains beslow,
Ridiculous as possible to grow,
And make a wondrous buidle to expres
A reverend, and more serious Childishnes,
Like a grave Ape , whom Nature did create
A Type of you, who can but imitate ;
Who one thing now, another straight admire,
Who hurried on with violent desire,
Plunge over head and ears , before you know,
How deep the silent smooth fac'd Waters flow,
Or weigh the Hardships you must undergo.
Thus some, when any much fam'd man they spy
Admir'd for Wisdom, and for Modesty,
Much listned to, and courted every where,
And then, perhaps, some grave Quotation hear,
How true speaks Socrates, nor can it be
That any should discourse as well as he.

Are taken with an Itch of being Wise ;
They too , forsooth, must needs Philosophize.

XXXV.

Having consider'd thus, what's to be done,
The hazards, hardships, and the risque you run,
Consider with what strength you are endow'd,
What Nature for th' encounter hath allow'd.

As if y'affect th' *Olimpick Exercise,*
Examine well your Back, you Shoulders, Thighs,
What Brawn, what Sinews for the Enterprise.

Nor will each sort of strength suit each exploit,
This runs, that leaps, this wrestles, throws the Coit ;
So if the Combat with your self you try,
And by strict methods of Philosophy,
Your own rebellious passions strive to tame,
And thus a more illustrious Conquest gain.

You can't expect t'indulge and gratifie
Your Genius with accustom'd Luxury.

Nay, 'tis a Contradiction, 'tis t'obey
Those very Lusts you mean to drive away.
You should consider whether you can bear,
The want of far-fetch'd Dainties, travell'd Clear ;
You should consider whether you can Dine,
Without a Catalogue of costly Wine ;
Whether that squeamishness you can forget
That makes you keep an Almanack for Meat,
That makes you sweat, and faint, when you behold
A novelty that's more than one day old ;
And to be short, and serious, what you think
Of Roots for Food, and the cold Stream for Drink.
Philosophy, like some brave Heroe bred,
With Labours harden'd, and with Hardships fed,
Awake, she cries, and let the early Sun
Blush that he sees his vigilance out done ;

Arise, pursue, press forward, drive away
With chearful toil , the tedious ling'ring day,
Busines thy sport, and Labour be thy play.

You should consider how you can dispence
With leaving home to gain experience.

How you can part with Friends, and Native Air ;
How the Fatigues of Travel you can bear ;
How in a thred bare Garment , old and torn,
You can endure the flights , and saucy scorn
Of Pages, Grooms, who in proud Liv'ries dress'd,
Fancy a tatter'd Coat a mighty Jest.

How it will relish with you to be us'd
Worse than the basest Slaves, to be refus'd
All Honour, Power, Trust, Preferment, Place,
Not to be call'd your Worship, styl'd your Grace,
In these examine well your self, and try
Whether you're willing, at such rates to buy
Freedom, a quiet mind, and constancy :

Left

Lest like the Boys I told you of, you prove
Now a Philosopher, then fall in love
With frothy trash of Orators, and thence
Straight a Collector of th' Excise commence;
Then tir'd with this, your fond desires dilate,
And wish to be a Minister of State.

These are wide contraries, as opposite
As Virtue is to Vice, as Black to White.
You can but make one single Man, and he
A Wise good Man, or Foolish Knave must be:
He the full sway over himself must have,
Or be to things, not in his power, a Slave;
Skill'd in these inward Arts, or those without,
Be Wise, or herd amongst the common rout;
Or a Philosopher, or Idiot.

XX XVI.

Let your respects and services agree,
And be proportion'd to the Quality

Of him, to whom these Services you pay ;
Is he your Father ? Know you must obey,
And cherish him, considering all his care
For you, when weak and helpless yet you were,
And bear with him in all things, knowing how
Nature oblig'd him to be kind to you ;
All this to Gratitude it self is due.

He heard your peevish brawling, strove trallay
Your Childish wrath, and wip'd your tears away ;
And can't you bear an angry word, or blow,
From one f'indulgent, one that lov'd you so,
Who gave you Being ? Who may well be said
Twice to have given you life, in that he fed,
In that with so much tendernes he bred
Your younger years. Oh ! but perhaps you'll say,
He's wicked and severe, I can't obey.
A lame excuse, let him be what he will,

Morose, or wicked , *he's your Father still* ;

What

What e're his Morals are, he may expect
From you at least, a filial respect ;
You can't believe that Nature's bound to find
A Parent for you, suited to your mind.
Well, but you think your Brother injures you,
You ask me here what Nature bids you do ?
Nature obligeth you to pass it by,
Bids you neglect the fancy'd injury,
Nor mind what's done by him, but bids you shew
The hearty love you to your Brother owe,
Which can't be shewn by more commodious light,
Than when y' oppose your goodness to his spight ;
And what long since I told you think on still,
No one can injure you against your will,
The wrong your suffer doth from fancy grow ;
You then are hurt, when you imagine so,
If by this steady ballance then, you try
The mutual Duties of Society,

Which

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Which Men to Men, Neighbours to Neighbours owe,
Which Soldiers to their General should shew ;
Which Citizens should pay their Magistrate ;
You'll grant they're to be paid, without debate,
Offence, or envy, prejudice, or hate.

XXXVII.

In this the main point of Religion lies,
To have right Notions of the Deities ;
As that such Beings really are, that they
Govern the World with just and prudent sway,
That chearfully you are oblig'd t' obey
All their commands, well satisfy'd to rest
On what they do, as order'd for the best ;
That whatsoever is by them decreed,
From an All-knowing Wisdom doth proceed.
Thus their wise Government you'll fear to blame,
Or, as neglected, peevishly complain,

But

But 'tis not likely you should have this fence,
These reverent Notions of their Providence,
Nor can you without murmuring resent,
Their partial and unequal management,
If you distinguish into Good and Ill,
Things not depending on your power and will.
Now if these attributes of Bad and Good,
Of things within your power be understood,
You lay the fault at your own Door, and clear
The Gods of being partial and severe.
But if you think that outward things can be
Some good, some bad ; with this absurdity
You wound the goodness of the Deity.
Your God a vile malicious Fiend you make,
Cruel, or weakly, given to mistake ;
Whom, when you foolishly averse would fly
Death, or like natural necessity,

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Or any thing, which you have wisht for, miss,
You needs must hate, and say the fault is his ;
To whom, though he hath kindly given you will
To wish, or not to wish, y' impute the ill ;
And, as 'tis nat'r al, with like hate reflect
On him, the cruel cause, as on th' effect.
Insects, and Brutes themselves, have thus much sense,
Alike t'o abhor th' offender and th' offence ;
Thus a fierce Cur follows and bites the Stone,
And then pursues the Man by whom 'twas thrown ,
As on the contrary, they love, th' admire,
What serves their wants, and answers their desire ;
And none, sure, but a Mad-man can rejoice
In that which plagues him, ruines, and destroys.
Hence 'tis the Father's hated by the Son,
Hence 'tis the Grave Old man grows troublesome ;
The dry Bones keeps him from a large Estate,
To which he fears he shall succeed too late :

He

He therefore daily wishes he were dead,
That his kind Heir might flourish in his stead.
Hence that pernicious fatal War arose,
Which *Thebes* to Blood and Ruine did expose,
For proud *Eteocles* resolv'd to Reign,
And *Polynices* would his Right maintain,
For both would rule , and both would be obey'd,
Each thought his Brother did his Right invade ;
Each thought Dominion was a Sovereign good ;
Each would assert his Int'rest with his Blood.
Hence 'tis the Plow-man, when tempestuous Rain,
Or Draught, have render'd all his Labour vain,
Rails on the Gods: Hence 'tis the Sailer raves,
When tost with furious Winds,& threatning Waves:
Hence 'tis the Merchant curses , if he fail
Of a quick Market, or a gainful Sale:
Hence they who lose Children, or Wife, complain,
That they , alas! have Sacrific'd in vain :

What

What e're they suffer, vainly wish, or fear,
The Gods, for certain, all the blame must bear,
Nor are they pious longer than they find
The Gods are grateful, in remembrance kind :
Only devout while favours they obtain,
They make Religion but a kind of gain.
Now he that only wisheth things may be
Just as they are, as the bles'd Gods decree,
Whose wise aversion only doth decline
Things he hath power to shun, can ne're repine,
Nor be provok'd to murmur or blaspheme,
Nor through false Notions lay the fault on them ;
He's the true pious Man. But here you'll say,
If we may ^{u. c. i. s. t. o.} only wish for what we may
Bestow upon our selves, pray where's the need
That we raise Temples, or that Victims Bleed?
Why should we Presents on their Altars lay ?
And why with Incense court them every day ?

Where's the Reward for this? What's the return
Of all this Smoak, and the Perfumes we burn?
Will you not worship them, unless you have
All that your Lust and Avarice can crave?
Methinks they've given enough, in that you live
Under their prudent care, who know to give
Better than you to ask; who *that* bestow,
Which most for your convenience they know.
Let's add to this, (if this will not suffice,) }
They've made you capable of being Wise. }
Are these mean reasons why you Sacrifice?
Wherefore your Offerings and Oblations pay
With usual Rites, after your Countries way
Let them be given, as what you really owe,
Without th' alloy of vanity or shew,
Not niggardly, nor with too great expence,
With all devotion, care, and diligence.

XXXVIII.

When you consult the Oracle, or those,
Who the deep secrets of the Gods disclose,
Who fill'd with a Divine, Prophetick rage,
The Will of Heaven, and its Decrees presage,
'Tis plain, the dark event you cannot tell,
Else why do you consult the Oracle?
But if you're a Philosopher, you know
Thus much at least of it, before you go;
That if of things not in our power, th'event
Must be infallibly indifferent,
Nor good, nor bad; when therefore you draw nigh
The hallow'd Cavern of the Deity,
The Will, and the Decrees of Fate t'inquire,
Approach without aversion or desire,
Else to the Sacred Vault you'll trembling come,
Like men who are arraign'd, to hear their Doom.

And know, that whatsoe're the Fates ordain,
From thence, at least, this benefit you gain,
That rightly using this, or that Decree,
You make a Virtue of Necessity ;

And what this benefit doth most inhaunce,
'Tis such as will admit no hinderance :

Therefore with Courage to the Gods repair,
To whom you freely may your doubts declare,
As to your Friends, in whom you most confide,
Whose Prudence and Integrity you've try'd ;

And what they bid you do, let it be done
With the most prudent care, rememb'ring whom
You chose for Counsellors, whom you neglect,
If their advice you slight or disrespect.

Nor must you every little doubt propose
To their Divinities, but such as those,
Which as Wise *Socrates* was wont to say,
Are very dark, abstruse, and out o'th' way ;

Such

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Such as are clear'd by their events alone,
Which by no humane methods can be shewn.
You must not such light Queries here propound,
Which every man of common sense may found :
As whether Med'cines can restore the Dead ?
Or *Hellebore* can purge a Mad-man's Head ?
No Riddles here, in which old Wives delight,
With which those aged *Sphinxes* pass the Night,
Nor such a knot as easily's unt'y'd,
Nor questions which by Sieve and Sheers are try'd,
But something difficult, and much involv'd,
Fit only by a God to be resolv'd.
Therefore when Reason says you're bound t' oppose,
Though hazarding your Life, your Countries Foes,
And with Heroick danger to defend
Him you think worthy to be call'd your Friend,
What need of Heavenly information here ,
Of Prophet, Augur, or Astrologer? °

Nothing but Falshood, or base Cowardice,
Can make a scruple of a case like this,
Since Reason hath determin'd long ago,
Whether you ought t' expose your self or no,
Nay, let's suppose that you're resolv'd to try
This dubious weighty point by Augury,
And that by some unlucky Omen's meant
Death, or the loss of Limbs, or Banishment ;
Yet should these mischiefs really ensue,
Which by foreboding signs do threaten you,
In spight of Exile, Wounds, nay Death, you must
Be to your Friend, and to your Country, Just ;
And Reason still commands you to redress,
The one in danger , th' other in distress.
Remember how that Miscreant was us'd,
Who this kind office to his friend refus'd,
By the Just Oracle , who drove away
Th' ingrateful Wretch, and thus was heard to say :

XXXIX.

Frame to your self some forms, some rules, whereby
To guide your life, on which to keep your eye;
Which whether to your self you live recluse,
Or which in Conversation you may use;
For there are dangers, which the wise would fly
Both in Retirement and Society.
For neither can a Ship with safety ride
Within her Port, if not with Cables ty'd;

Nor can she be secure, when under Sail,
Though in fair Weather with a prosperous Gale,
Unless known Rules, by long Experience try'd,
Her well-spread Canvas, and her Rudder guide,
Nor only in the Main do Tempests roar,
They strike the Flats, and riot on the shore ;
And skilful Sailers, with Just reason doubt
Dangers within, as well as those without.

XL.

Let modest silence be your greatest care
In humane Conversation, and beware
Of being over talkative, and shun
That lewd perpetual motion of the Tongue,
That itch of speaking much, and be content
That your discourse (though short) be pertinent ;
And when occasion serves, then speak your sense,
Without an over-weaning confidence,

Nor catch at every Bait , nor open at
The common opportunities of Chat ;
As, such a Fencer play'd his part with skill,
That, such a Wrestler, breaks what Rib he will :
That such a Horse is of the fleetest kind,
And that his Dam engender'd with the Wind :
That a full cry of deep-mouth'd, long ear'd Hounds
Is the most sweet, and ravishing of sounds :
That such a Lord with the best Wines doth treat,
Has the best Cook, is the best read in Meat.
These are the thred-bare Themes that please the
The ignorant, the thoughtless, and the proud. (crowd,
But chiefly shun discourse concerning men,
Nor fondly this man praise, and that condemn,
For all immod'rate, and too lavish praise,
Too great an expectation's apt to raise :
For by reviling others you express
Your little Wisdom, but much bitterness.

Nor

Nor with absurd comparisons defame
 One man, by adding to anothers Name :
 For thus, by way of foyle , the ones disgrace
 Sets off the Character you mean to raise ;
 With Hemlock this you Crown,& that with Bays.

XLI.

Among your friends, with whom you may be free,
 If vain, or frivolous their converfe be,
 Or seem to favour of Indecency,
 Alter the subject , sure you may invent
 Some profitable , pleasing argument ,
 Which like a gentle Tide , with easie force
 May stop the current of the first discourse ;
 But among strangers learn to hold your Tongue ,
 Your good intentions may be constru'd wrong ,
 You may be term'd impertinent or rude ,
 Wise out of season , and be said t' intrude ,

XLII.

XLII.

Laughter, if rightly us'd, may be confess
In some sort to distinguish Man from Beast,
While by due management it is allay'd,
While the strict Rules of Reason are obey'd ;
But shews, if over loud, or over long,
Your Head but weak, alth' your Lungs be strong,
For even a smile, not in its proper place,
Too Just a blemish on your Judgment lays ;
But causless laughter at each thing you see ,
That grinning of the thoughtless Mobile ,
That senseless gaping mirth , that is exprest
Without the provocation of a Jest ,
That wild Convulsive writhing of the face ,
That quite disfigures it from what it was ,
Doth with humanity so little suit ,
It makes you but a different sort of Brute .

XLIII.

Avoid th' engagement of an Oath, or swear
As seldom as you can, at least forbear
To bind your self to what you cannot do,
And only swear to that which lies in you ;
For 'tis a wicked, blasphemous offence,
To call the Gods to each Impertinence,
To make them Knights o'th' Post, to testify
That to be truth you know to be a lye.

XLIV.

If with Civility you can, decline
All publick Feasts, and learn at home to Dine
With sober Food, at your own charge, content ;
But if oblig'd, in point of Complement,
To eat abroad, be it your care to shun
The vulgar Dregs of Conversation,
As common vile Discourse, and dirty Jests,
The nauseous merriment of greasie Feasts,

ENCHIRIDION. 77

For if your Company be Lewd, you may
Soon grow as Dissolute and Lewd as they,
For there's Contagion in each Word they speak,
Each Simile they make, each Jest they break;
Their very breath invenoms all the Clear,
As if the Harpy-Sisters had been there.
Thus hurtful Vapours, rising from the ground,
Poyson what e're they meet, leave nothing found.
Thus a blear'd weeping Eye is apt to make
Th' infected Eyes of the beholders ake.
Thus Sheep diseas'd, pall'd Wine, corrupted Fruit,
If mixt, the healthful, sprightly, sound, pollute.

XLV.

For Meat, Drink, Cloaths, House, Servants, and the
Which chiefly are the Bodies interest, (rest,
Take this prescription, you may safely use
Such a proportion as will most conduce,

To

To the internal welfare of your mind,
And that's as much as Nature hath design'd.

Take just as much of each, as may suffice
For health, and strengthning of your faculties,
What your necessities require; but fly
Whatever tends to Pride, or Luxury.

The frugal Belly's easily supply'd,
With wholesome, homely fare well satisfy'd;
Nor hungry, doth abstain from Meat, because
Not dress'd with Art, with some peculiar Sauce,
Nor thirsty, do you stay for choice of Wine,
Nor do rich delicates your parts refine:

Nay, the Mind surfeits as the Body doth,
Intemperance hath the same effect on both.

Our Ancestors on Roots and Acorns fed,
Drank the cool Brook, nor felt an aking Head:
Without Disease, or Pain, they liv'd to see
A numerous, and a well-grown Progeny,

*

And

And were, no doubt, as Witty and as Wife,
Without the helps of studied Rarities.

An Home-spun Suit, tho' course, will keep you warm,
And the keen Winters rigour will Disarm
Better than costly Robes of *Tyrian Dye*,
Beset with Pearl, or rich Embroidery.

Nor need you such a stately House, as may
Afford a different Room for every day
Through the whole year, with a large spacious Hall,
Since one small Room may serve instead of all :

Since you in one may Eat, Drink, Walk, and Sleep.
And why so many Servants will you keep ?
Where's the necessity of all this State ?

Is it below you on your self to wait ?
Have you not Limbs, and Health, and Strength, to do
Those Offices, which they perform for you ?

But you, perhaps, believe 'tis base, and mean,
On your own Strength, on your own Legs to lean,

And

And vainly think 'tis granted and allow'd,
That to be generous is to be proud,
And therefore when you're pleas'd to take the air,
By Brawny Slaves you're carried in a Chair ;
Therefore you hire a Cook to dres your Meat ;
'Tis much you do not think 'tis mean to Eat.

XLVI.

Before you're married, strive to live as free
As possibly you can from Venery ;
Though 'tis a Lust of a Rebellious kind,
That owns the least subjection to the mind,
Th' effort of Flesh and Blood, the furious Horse,
That bears against the Bit with headstrong force :
Yet you're oblig'd in Justice to refrain,
And to preserve your Body without stain.
For as you think 'twould lessen your repute
To marry with a common Prostitute,

ENCHIRIDION 81

So you're oblig'd to give your self entire
To the chaste arms of her whom you admire ;
But if you're borne so forcibly away,
As not for *Hymen* and her Rites to stay,
Yet still your Countries Laws claim Just respect,
Though you the Rules of Chastity neglect.
Though ne'r so Rampant, sure you may abstain
From what's forbidden, from unlawful game ;
As from Adultery ; nor need you wrong
Another, though your Lusts be ne're so strong ;
Since there are other Liberties allow'd,
To asswage this scorching Fever of the Blood.
But if you're throughly mortify'd , and find
No Inclination left for Womankind,
Yet grow not proud upon't, nor those accuse,
Who court those Sensual Pleasures you refuse ;
Nor boast your Virtue such, that you despise
The weak attractions of a pleasing Eye:

That you, for sooth, are cold as *Scythian Ice*,
 For boasting is a most intemp'rate Vice,
 Not worse the wanton sport that you despise.
 No, 'tis the Letch'ry of the Mind, for which
 There's no excuse of Flesh and Blood, an itch
 Of being prais'd, which rather than you'l want,
 Even you your self are your own Sycophant.

XLVII.

When you're inform'd that any one through spight,
 Or an ill natur'd, scurrilous delight
 Of railing, flanders you, or doth accuse
 Of doing something base, or scandalous,
 Disquiet not your self for an excuse,
 Nor blustering swear he wrongs you with a lye,
 But flight th' abuse, and make this calm reply :
 Alas ! he's Ignorant ; For had he known
 My other faults and follies, he had shewn
 Those too, nor had he spoke of this alone.

XLVIII.

XLVIII.

There's no great need that you should oft appear
At Shews, or help to crowd the Theater :
But if it be expected you should be
Amongst the rest, at the Solemnity
Of Sacred Sports, when 'tis requir'd that all
Should joyn to Celebrate the Festival :
See with Indifference, and lay aside
Partiality, and wish on neither side ;
And be not more concern'd for what you see,
Than your own Quiet and Tranquillity :
Be these your main concern, your greatest care.
And wish that things may be just as they are,
And that the Victory may fall to him,
Who gains the Day, who doth the Garland win :
For while to neither, to your self you're kind,
Nor can you any disappointment find.

Be not transported , do not laugh aloud,
Nor roar in Consort with the bellowing crowd.
When the Shew's over, when from thence you come,
Dispute not much concerning what was done,
As, who's the tallest Fellow of his Hands,
Who best the Lance, who best the Sword commands;
Or whether such an one was fairly slain,
This is to aft th' Encounter o're again.
But say y' out-talk the other , win the prize,
Are you a jot the better , or more wise ?
You only shew that you admire the Sport,
When there's no tollerable reason for't,
And why so great a wonder is it made,
That a Man's quick , or dext'rous at his Trade ?
That one of greater strength, or greater skill,
Should get the better ; that a Sword will kill ?

XLIX.

Avoid, if possible, th' Impertinence
Of those who prostitute their Eloquence,
Who with a long Harangue, from Desk, or Stage,
Both the rich Mcbile, and poor engage:
For what advantage are you like to gain,
By hearing some one a whole hour Declaim,
While *Alexander's* Justice he commends
For murd'ring all's best and trustiest Friends ?
How are you better'd by a tun'd discourse
Of *Phaleris* his Bull, or *Sinon's* Horse ?
Or a description that's design'd to shew
The various colours of the Heavenly Bow,
In a discourse almost as long as it,
Which the vile trifling Scribler takes for Wit ?
What wisdom can you learn from *Circe's* Hogs ?
From *Hecuba* turn'd Bitch, or *Scylla's* Dogs ?

From weeping *Niobe* transform'd to Stone,
Or Bloody *Tereus* feeding on his Son ?
But if in Māiners you're oblig'd to attend,
Because perhaps the Author is your Friend ;
Or if that Tyrant, Custom, bring you there,
Be Grave, but not Morose; nor too severe,
Nor play the Critick, nor be apt to Jeer ;
Nor by detraction seek Inglorious praise ;
Nor seem to weep, when he your Joy would raise ;
Nor grin, nor swear, when some sad passion tries
To draw the brinish humour from your Eyes,
Nor to the Company disturbance cause,
By finding fault, or clamorous applause ;
Be sober and sedate, nor give offence,
Or to your self, or to the Audience.

L.

When you have ought to do, or are to treat
With Persons whose Authority is great,

Let

Let *Socrates* and *Zeno* shew you how,
And what their prudence would think fit to do, }
Were they to manage this affair for you. }
With what a temper ; how serene and brave,
In such a case, would they themselves behave ?
For neither would they crouch, nor yeild thro' fear,
Nor would they rude, or insolent appear ;
Nor would they any thing unseemly say,
Nor yet through flatt'ry give the cause away,
By these great Paterns act, you cannot fail,
Wisdom and Courage joyn'd must needs prevail.

LI.

These things before-hand to your self propose,
When you're about to visit one of those
Who are call'd great ; perhaps he's not within,
Or likely he's retir'd , nor to be seen :
Perhaps his Porter , some rough sturdy Bore,
Amongst the Beggars thrusts you from the Door,

Or when, at length, you have admittance got,
His Honour's busie, or he minds you not.
But if in spight of each Impediment,
In spight of Slights, Affronts, you still are bent
To make this Visit, know you must dispence
With such small accidents, nor take offence
When you're despis'd, nor with the vulgar cry
Tis not so great a matter, what care I;
In whom you through the Visard may discern
(Howe're they strive to hide it) a concern,
Who like the Fox in *Aesop*, seem to set
Those Grapes at naught, as fowre, they cannot get,

LII.

Boast not in Company of what you've done,
What Battels you have fought, what hazards run,
How first at such a Siege of such a Town,
You Scal'd the Walls, and won the Mural Crown;

And

And how your Skill and Conduct gain'd the day,
While Hosts of slaughter'd Foes about you lay :
For while your actions you your self relate,
You from your real merits derogate,
With your own breath you blow away your praise,
And overthrow those Trophies you would raise ;
You talk away those Honours you have got,
While some despise you , some believe you not ;
Nor is't as pleasant , or agreeable
To them to hear, as 'tis to you to tell ;
What is't to them what Lawrels you have gain'd ?
What dangers you've escap'd, what wounds sustain'd ?
Perhaps they fancy all that you have said
Doth but their Sloth , or Cowardice upbrai' ,
And vex'd, or tir'd, they wish you all the same
Dangers, and Wounds, and Hardships o're again.

LIII.

'Tis but a sorry sort of praise to be
A droll, the Jester of each company,
A raiser of loud laughter, a Buffoon,
The sport, and the diversion of the Town:
For he that strains to please, and humour all
Into the common shore of talk must fall.
He that would make each merry, must of force
With every folly, temper his discourse;
Sometimes talk down right bawdry, then defie
The Gods, and laugh at dull Morality.
From such behaviour, what can you expect
But to be laught at, and to lose respect.
You think you're much admir'd, tho' much deceiv'd,
You're neither lov'd, respected, nor believ'd.
For who would trust, love, honour, or commend
The wretch, who for a jest betrays his friend:

To whom there's naught so dear in heaven or earth,
He would not make the subject of his mirth.

LIV.

You make your self contemptible and mean,
A member of the Rabble, if obscene
In conversation, wherefore when you find
Some one to lewd discourse too much inclin'd,
Lecture him soundly for it, if there be
A fit, convenient, opportunity.

Tell him he vents much filth, but little wit,
And only gains th' applause of Fools by it.

Tell him 'tis such as some must needs resent,
Besides 'tis needless and impertinent.

But if by Wine, or Company engag'd,
He by your good advice may be enrag'd,
By silence, frowns, or blushes, shew that you,
That nauseous conversation disallow.

LV.

When some Idea , that excites desire,
Courts you in all its best and gay attire,
As when your fancy lays you on a Bed
Of Roses , and twines myrtle round your head,
Near am'rous shady groves, and purling springs,
While hovering Cupids fan you with their wings,
While you in the dear Fetters are confin'd,
Of some soft Beauties arms, that's fair as kind,
Take heed least here so far you do pursue
That fancy'd pleasure, as to wish it true :
You're just upon the precipices brink,
Pause then a little , and take time to think ;
Examine well the object , and compare
Th' unequal periods , which allotted are
To weeping penitence , and short liv'd bliss,
How long the one , how short the other is :

Joy

Joy in a nimble moment ends its race,
And rueful, pale Repentance takes its place,
And moves with a sad fullen heavy pace,
Attended all the way with groans and cryes,
Self accusations, sighs, and watry eyes.



Think then what joy, and pleasure you will find ;
That is, what peace, and quiet in your mind,
How you will praise your self, and blesf your care
When you escape the dang'rous pleasing snare.

But if you think the pleasure may content ;
So safe, agreeable, convenient,
As that you'l have no reason to repent ;



Take heed yow be not by its sweets subdu'd,
Drag'd by its smiling force to servitude :
And think you much 'tis better to be free,
The Conqu'rour of such powerful charms to be,
And triumph in so great a victory.



LVI.

When you resolve to do what's right , and fit,
Why should you shun being seen in doing it ;
Why should you sneak , or why avoid the light,
Like conscious Bats , that only fly by night.
What though the vulgar , who all fence disclaim,
That many headed Monster without brain,
Your actions through gross ignorance condemn,
You're likely in the right , when blam'd by them.
But if the action's bad , you ought to shun
Th' attempting it , for 'tis not to be done.
If good ; what cause have you to dread , or fly
Their false reproaches , and rude calumny.

LVII.

As we speak fence , and cannot but 'be right,
When we affirm 'tis either day or night,
But rave , and talk rank nonsense , when we say ,
At the same instant , 'tis both night and day ;

So 'tis a contradiction at a Feaſt,
To take the largest ſhare, to cut the beſt,
And be a fair and ſociable Guest.

You may 'tis true your appetite appeafe,
But not your Company, nor Treater pleafe,
Wherefore of this absurdity beware,
And take a modeft, and an equal ſhare ;
Nor think each fav ry bit that's there your due,
Nor let your Entertainer bluſh for you.

You may as well fay 'tis both day and night,
As ſtrive, at once, t' indulge your appetite
And pleafe the reſt, and him that doth invite.

LVIII.

If you assume too great a character,
Such as your feeble ſhoulders cannot bear,
You muſt at beſt, ridiculous appear.
Clad in a Lyons ſkin, you only bray,
The ears ſtick out, and the dull Aſs betray.

Beside

Besides you foolishly neglect the part,
In which you might have shewn much skill, & art.

LIX.

As walking you tread warily ; for fear
You strain your Leg, or least some nail should tear
Your feet, let the like caution be your guide,
In all the actions of your life beside.

Fear to offend your Judgment, fear to slight
Reason, th' unbyast Rule of wrong and right,
Under whose conduct we more safely may
Follow, where her discretion leads the way.

LX.

As the Shoo's made to serve and fit the foot,
As the Leg gives the measure to the Boot,
So our possession should be measur'd by
The body's use, and its necessity.

If here you stop, content with what you need,
With what will keep you warm, your body feed ;

Within

Within the bounds of temperance you live.
But if the reins you to your wishes give ;
If Natures limits you, but once transgres,
You tumble down a headlong precipice
Into a boundless Gulph : This we may see
If we pursue our former similitie :
For lets suppose , your Shoo made tight and fit,
Strong, warm, and easie , as 'tis requisite,
What more can be desired from a Shoo,
'Tis all that Hide , and Thread, and Wax can do ;
But if you look for more , you're hurry'd on
Beyond your bounds, and then 'tis ten to one,
That it must be more modish, pinkt, and wrought,
Then set with Pearls , from farthest *Indies* brought,
Then with Embroidery , and Purple shine,
No matter if 'tis useleſs , so 'tis fine.
So there's no farther stay , no farther bound,
By those wh' exceed just measures , to be found.

LXI.

Women, when once arriv'd at dear fourteen,
Begin to be admir'd, and gain esteem,
They are call'd Mistresses, and now they find,
That they for Man's diversion are design'd,
To which they're not averse, perceiving then
That their preferment lies in pleasing Men,
In being made Companions of their beds,
They straight begin to curl, t' adorn their heads,
To Comb, Perfume, and to consult the glass,
To study what attire, commends a face,
To practice similes, and a beguiling air;
Each thinks she is as happy as she's fair ;
As she can please, as she can Conquer hearts,
In these, and thousand other such like arts,
They place their only hopes, on these depend,
And earnestly ex'pect the wish'd for end.

Where-

Wherefore 'tis fit that they be taught to know,
That these respects, and honours, that we shew
To them on this account are only due ;
That as they're fair, so they are modest too ;
That they are spotless, grave, reserv'd, and wise,
That these ingaging vertues are the tyes,
That more oblige, than arts, or amorousies.

LXII.

In outward Actions, to spend too much time,
Is of stupidity too sure a sign,
As long to exercise, and long to eat,
To spend whole days, at least, to cram down meat,
To try what drink your belly will contain,
To be disgorg'd, to be pist out again,
Than half an hour, like a dull grinning Fool,
To make wry faces, over a Closs-stool ;
Or like a brutish Swine, in sensual strife,
To swallow out whole hours with your dull wife,

When all this precious time should be assign'd,
For brave endeavours to improve your mind.

LXIII.

Doth any strive to wrong you , or design
To stain your reputation with a crime ?
Consider he believes this wrong your due ,
That he doth only what he ought to do ,
For 'tis a thing impossible , that he
Should so in fentiments with you agree ,
As not to follow his own bent of mind ,
And that to which his Judgment is inclin'd .
Now if through carelesnes he judge amiss ,
He suffers most , and all the harm is his .
He truly suffers most , whose reasons light ,
Is clouded o're , whom error doth benight :
He the affront to his own reason gives ,
Who thinks wrong right , who falsehoods truth be-
lieves .

ENCHIRIDION. 101

Then why should his mistakes your Soul torment?
His own mistakes, are his own punishment,
He wrongs his Judgment, not the truth, or you;
You still are guiltless, still what's truth is true,
Still 'tis a certain truth (what e're he say)
That whensoe'er the Sun appears 'tis day.
And thus prepar'd, you patiently may bear
His rudeness, and unmov'd his flanders hear,
And calmly answer, that such things to him
Fit to be done, fit to be said, may seem.

LXIV.

If you a strict enquiry make, you'l find,
That to each thing, two handles are assign'd.
One not to be endur'd, that will admit
No touch, there's none alas can manage it.
The other tractable, which every hand
With moderate skill, and prudence may command.

If then your Brother injures you, through Pride,
Or Fraud , lay hold upon the safer side ;
And do not straight examine his offence,
Toucht with too deep, and too grev'ous a sense
Of the wrong offer'd, least you discompose
Your mind , and wrath to injury oppose,
Least in a Tempest you your self engage,
Which only serves to blow , t' inflame his rage.
But rather think how near you are ally'd,
That such offences ought not to divide,
And break the knot, which Natures hand hath ty'd;
Remember all the happy years you spent
Under one Roof , and the same management ;
Rememb'reng this, you'l soon forget the ill
Your Brother did you, he's your Brother still.

LXV.

If I should boast I wealthier am than you,
It follows not that I am better too.

If I should say, I'm the more florid Man,
It follows not, I therefore better am.
It rather follows, I am Richer far,
Therefore my well fill'd Bags the better are.
My tongue is better hung, my Phrase more neat,
Therefore my Language is the more compleat.
Your Baggs & Fluent speech, have some pretence
To being better, to more excellency,
But you are neither wealth, nor eloquence.

LXVI.

Doth any one bath earlier than the time
That's usually observ'd, or drink much wine,
Censure him not, nor say 'tis not well done,
Say only, he drinks much, or washeth soon.
For why should you, till you have understood
His Reasons, judge his Actions bad or good?
Perhaps he washeth early, with intent
Thus to refresh himself with watching spent.

What e're your grave sobriety may think,
In him perhaps 'tis temperance to drink.
Perhaps his Constitution may require
More Wine, his Lamp more Oil to feed its fire.
First know the Reasons, then you may proceed
With safety to dispraise, or praise the deed,
Thus will you never any Action blame,
And then on second thought commend the same.

LXVII.

When you in every place, your self profess
A deep Philosopher, you but express
Much vanity, much self-conceit betray,
And shew you are not truly what you say.
Amongst rude Ignorants, unthinking Tools,
To talk of Precepts, Maximes, and of Rules,
Is to be laugh'd at, thought a Banterer,
For how can they approve beyond their Sphear.

Your knowledge by your way of living shew,
What is't, alas ! to them, how much you know ?
Act as your Precepts teach, as at a Feast,
Eat as 'tis fit , 'tis vain to teach the rest
How they should eat, who come but to enjoy
The present Clear, to swallow, and destroy,
Who come to Gormandize , and not to hear
The sober precepts of a Lecturer.

Let *Socrates* instruct you to despise
The fond desire of being counted wife,
Who being askt by some, (who had design'd
T' affront him with a Jeſt,) to be so kind,
As to instruct them how to find , and where
There dwelt some grave profound Philosopher.
Although the impudent request imply'd
That he was none, without concern, or pride,
Or the leaſt ſhew of anger , led them thence
To thoſe who fold Philosophy for pence,

Who

Who publickly profest it as a Trade,
And a good handsome income by it made.

LXVIII.

When men of shallow heads themselves advance
Above their usual pitch of ignorance,
To talk of Maxims, and of Rules, forbear
To interpose your fence, or meddle there ;
Why should you laugh at this, or that confute,
For what are you concern'd in the dispute?
What reason, or what obligation lies
On you, to hinder them from seeming wise ?
Besides to be too much inclin'd to speak,
Shews your minds Constitution to be weak,
Your very love of talking doth declare
How ill your principles digested are,
And that you do not practice what you know,
As vomiting doth a weak stomach shew.

Oh!

Oh! but perhaps you fancy, that they may
Construe your silence, ignorance, and say
That you know nothing: Well, suppose they do,
If patiently you bear it, know that you
Have the great work begun, you now begin
To feel your precepts strengthen you within;
'Tis your behaviour that can best express
The well digested Maximes you profess:
Thus well fed Sheep do not cast up their meat,
To satisfie their Shepheard what they eat,
But what they eat, and inwardly digest
By Fatnes, Fleece, and Milk they manifest.

LXIX.

If you have learn't to live on homely food,
To feed on Roots, and Lupines, be not prou'd,
Since every Beggar may be prais'd for that,
He eats as little, is as temperate;

So if you drink cold water , and abstain
From all such Liquors as affect the brain,
Why should you seek occasions to declare
How moderate , how abstemious you are ?
For what advantage by it can you gain ?
If in your sober Cups you still are vain.
Would you inure your self to undergo
The wrath of Winter ; play with Frost and Snow ?
Let it not be in publick , nor embrace
Cold Marble-Statues in the Market-place,
But would you to the very height aspire
Of bearing much ? first bridle your desire
Of being prais'd ; take Water in your mouth
When your parcht Vitals almost crack with drought ,
And in the very pangs of thirst restrain ,
And without boistering spit it out again.

LXX.

The hopes, and fears of a plebeians mind,
To outward objects only are confin'd ;
Riches and Pleasures are his chief delight,
The prizes which engage his appetite,
These he thinks make him fortunate, if won,
And if he fail, he's ruin'd and undone,
Nor has the sordid, thoughtless thing, a sense
Of a more noble inward excellence.

But the Philosopher's exalted Soul
No little outward trifles can controul,
No promis'd Joy , nor fear his mind affects,
His good, and ill , he from himself expects,
Secure within himself , he can despise
The gayeties, that charm the vulgars eyes,
And accidents, which weaker minds surprise.

LXXI.

Such , and so differing is the Character
Of the Plebeian and Philosopher.

Now the Proficient , he that labours on
Towards perfection , by these signs is known ;
He no Man blames , he no Man doth condemn ,
He praiseth not himself , nor other Men ,
Boasts not the greatness of his parts , nor shews
On every light occasion all he knows ;
Or if some rub or hinderance he find
In any enterprize , he had design'd ,
He blames himself , if prais'd he can despise
The fulsome dauber , and his flatteries ;
If blam'd he doth not study a defence ,
Least he be carried on with vehemence ,
As Men , who have been lately Sick , take care
Least they relapse , and venture not too far ,

ENCHIRIDION. III

Till they be perfectly restor'd, so he
Declines the making an Apology,
Least he should be too eagerly concern'd,
Before his strength of mind be well confirm'd.

All his desires, and his aversions fall
Only on things, which he his own can call,
And as to things in his own choice and will
His appetite he rules, with caution still,
What the World judgeth him, he values not,
Whether Philosopher or Idiot,
In short he o're himself is as a spie,
He o're his Actions keeps a watchful eye,
As he would watch a Knave, or Enemy.

LXXII.

Doth any Man look big, and boast that he
Doth understand *Chrysippus* thoroughly,
That he hath dig'd the Mine, and found the Gold,
That he, his darkest Precepts can unfold,

Say

Say thus within your self, why what pretence
Would this Man have to merit, if the sense
Of what *Chrysippus* writ were plain, but I
Would study Nature, and my thoughts apply
To follow her, but who shall lead me on,
And shew the way, 'tis time that I were gone,
Having made this enquiry, when I hear
Chrysippus is the best Interpreter,
I the dark Author straightway take in hand,
But his hard Writings do not understand,
I find him difficult, abstruse, profound,
I some one seek, who his vast depth can sound,
After much search I find him, but as yet,
I have accomplisht nothing, that is great,
Till I begin to practice, what I sought,
What he explains, what great *Chrysippus* taught.
Then, and then only, is the Garland wone,
For practice is the prize, for which we run.

If knowledge be the bound of my desire,
If learning him be all that I admire,
If I applaud my self, because I can
Explain *Chrisippus*, a Grammarian
Instead of a Philosopher I grow,
For what I should have done, I only know,
Here's all the diff'rence between him and me,
Chrisippus I expound, and *Homer* he,
All that I have atcheiv'd is to explain
What great *Chrisippus* writ, and blush for shame
That knowing what he taught, I still am vain.

LXXIII.

To these great Rules with constancy adhere,
With noble resolutions, pious fear,
Fear to recede from these, as you would dread
To tear the sacred Garland from the head
Of awful *Jove*, or wickedly deny
To pay your vows made to the Deity,

I

And

And mind not what the thoughtless Vulgar say,
Whose words the winds blow with rank Fogs away,
Whose calumnies you can no more prevent,
Than chain those Roarers of the Element,
When with their airy Wings they beat the Plain,
And buffet the green Surges of the Main.

LXXIV.

Awake, awake, how long will you decline
The happiness propos'd, and wast your time,
How long through sloth will you persit to flight,
What reason hath inform'd you to be right.
You have receiv'd the Precepts, such as may
Guide you the safest, and the surest way,
To which you ought to have, and have agreed;
What other Teacher seem you now to need?
Do you expect that some descending God
Should leave his blest, and Heavenly abode

To finish what your reason hath begun,
To teach you what e're this you might have done?
Your giddy years of frolick Youth are fled,
Manhood, that should be wise, reigns in its stead ;
Your vigorous reason now hath reach'd its prime,
But from its full Meridian must decline,
If lazily you sleep away your noon,
The night steals on you, and finds nothing done :
If still irresolute you love delay,
And spend whole years in fixing on a day,
And when 'tis come new resolutions make,
Which your neglect resolves but to forsake,
You strive to grow more foolish than you are,
And for gray dotage by degrees prepare,
A meer Plebeian to the Grave you go,
Laden with Age, with Follys, and with Woe.
Wherefore begin, let no delays defer
The peaceful Life of a Philosopher,

And let, what reason tells you to be best,
Be as a Law, that may not be transgreſt.
Begin to live, let your behaviour show
What an advantage tis to think, and know ;
For this alone we life may justly term,
To live with ease of mind, without concern.
An hundred years in grief and anguish spent,
Are not long Life, but a long punishment, (breath
For sighs, complaints, and groans, and murmuring
Are but the gasps of a more ling'ring death.
Therefore when e're you any object meet,
Whose force is pow'rful, and whose charms are sweet,
When you encounter hardships, danger, pain,
Immortal ignominy, deathless fame,
Remember that th' Olympicks now are come,
That you no longer may the combat shun,
On this one Tryal doth your doom depend,
You in one moment fail, or gain your end,

You either conquer, or are conquer'd soon,
And lose, or wear, the honours of the Crown.

Thus *Socrates* advanc'd his lasting name,
Thus he the wond'rous *Socrates* became.
Him nothing but right reason er'e could sway,
Which he believ'd 'twas glorious to obey,
He all delay, in what seem'd best, thought base,
Not only real loss, but vile disgrace.
And you (though yet you have not the success)
To reach the Wisdom of great *Socrates*)
Should strive to live, as if you meant to be
As Wise, as Happy, and as Great as he.

LXXV.

Philosophy's most useful part is this,
Which shews us what a wise mans duty is,
Which teacheth, what we should pursue or fly,
As for example, that we should not *LIE.*

The next is demonstration , that which shows
By argument , which from right reason flows ,
Why we , who study Nature , ought to shun
The baseness of a false , deceitful Tongue ?

The Third is what confirms , gives force , & light ,
And proves the demonstration to be right ,
Shews where the Contradiction lies in sense ,
What is , what is not a true Consequence ,
Of Truth and Falshood gives clear evidence .

This last is useful for the second , that
By reason puts an end to all debate
Touching the first ; but that's the part that claims
(As being the most useful) the most pains ;
On which we safely may rely , and rest
Secure of happiness , intirely blest :
But we , O base neglect ! the means pursue
Of doing well , but still forget to do ,

We dwell on the dispute, our time is spent
Only in framing of the Argument,
Hence 'tis we lie, and with much Art and Skill,
Act, what we can demonstrate, to be ill.

LXXVI.

In every Action, which you undertake
With great *Cleanthes*, this Petition make,
Lead me, O *Jove*, and thou, O powerful Fate,
In every Enterprize, in every State,
As ye determine, for I must obey
The wise injunctions, which you on me lay,
For should I at your dread decrees repine,
And strive your sacred orders to decline ;
I should but labour wickedly in vain,
And struggle with an everlasting chain,
And after all, be drag'd along with pain.

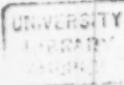
Think

LXXVII.

Think on this saying of *Euripides*,
 He that submits to *Destiny's* decrees,
 Is justly counted wise by Men, and knows
 The due respects, which to the Gods he owes.

LXXVIII.

And this, O *Socrates*, till aged time
 Shall be no more, till Stars shall cease to shine,
 Shall never be forgotten ; for 'tis thine.
 O *Crito*, if it please the Gods, that I,
 To please the rage of Enemies, must die,
 Let it be so, the false *Anytus* may,
 With false *Melitus*, take my Life away,
 But cannot hurt me, or my Soul dismay.



F I N I S.

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